

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 29th June 1912.

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PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 11th May 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI.				
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly ...	Kamal Lal Das ; Hindu, Karmokar ; age 35 years ...	500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years ; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 43 years ; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Mukherji, v.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years ; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	450
4	"Barisal Hitaisi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Durga Mohan Sen, Baidya, age 35 years ...	600
5	"Banga Janani" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baidya, age 37 years ...	.....
6	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sureschandra Samajpati ; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years ; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	18,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitaisi" ...	Bolepur (Birbhum) ...	Do. ...	Dibakar Banerji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 43 years ...	350
8	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Suri (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years ...	800
9	"Birbhum Vasi" ...	Rampurhat (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years ...	350
10	"Biswadut" ...	Howrah ...	Do. ...	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 36 years.	1,500
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	Do. ...	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years ...	500
12	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha" ...	Bhowanipore ...	Do. ...	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years ...	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 42 years ...	1,100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	850
15	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily, except on Thursdays.	Hari Das Dutt and Kabetra Nath Sen ...	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	Weekly ...	Satya Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years ...	80
17	"Dacca Prakas" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	80
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
19	"Faridpur Hitaisini" ...	Faridpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Baidya, age about 73 years ...	400
20	"Gaud Dut" ...	Malda ...	Weekly ...	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla ...	.....
21	"Hindu Manjika" ...	Rajshahi ...	Do. ...	Kasinuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan, Printer, age 41 years ...	185
22	"Hindusthan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hari Das Dutt ...	1,000
23	"Hitavadi" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakham Ganesh Denshkar	20,000 to 30,000
24	"Islam Rabi" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Maulvi Nazimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
25	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do. ...	.....	About 300
26	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do. ...	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ...	500
27	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kali Sankar Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	930
28	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do. ...	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years ...	800
29	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji ; Brahmin ; age 66 years ...	500
30	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	350

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI—contd.				
31	"Malda Samachar"	Malda	Weekly	Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years	440
32	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia	Do.	Bagala Charam Ghosh ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 41 years	About 500
33	"Midnapore Hitaishi"	Midnapore	Do.	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years	200
34	"Medini Bandhab"	Midnapore	Do.	Deb Das Karan ; Hindu, Sadgop ; age 44 years	600
35	"Mahamaya" ...	Chinsura	Do.	Hem Basi Som, Kayastha, age 57 years	150
36	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque	4,00 to 5,000
37	"Muhammadi" ...	Ditto	Do.	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	2,000
38	"Murahidabad Hitaishi."	Saidabad	Do.	Banwari Lal Goswami ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 46 years	100
39	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta	Daily	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panchkari Banerjee	1,500 to 3,000
40	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur	Weekly	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years	500
41	"Noakhali Sammilani"	Noakhali	Do.	Sesi Bhushan Das, Kayastha	200
42	"Nihar" ...	Contai	Do.	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years	300
43	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong	Do.	Charu Chandra Ray ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 38 years	500
44	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years	300
45	"Pabna Hitaishi"	Pabna	Do.	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 39 years.	100
46	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera	Fortnightly	Munshi Muhammad A. Meen, Musalman, age 53 years	200
47	"Prasun" ...	Katwa	Weekly	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin age 47, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goala, age 41 years.	618
48	"Pratikar" ...	Berhampur	Do.	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years	500
49	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia	Do.	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years	About 700
50	"Rajsekti" ...	Do.	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years	110
51	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol	Do.	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 26 years	500
52	"Rangpur Durpan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Braja Nath Basak ; Hindu, Tanti ; age 52 years	200
53	"Rangpur Dikprakash"	Ditto ditto	Do.	Hara Sarker Maitra, Brahmin, age 66 years	300
54	"Samey" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 58 years	500 to 600
55	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur	Do.	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 38 years	300
56	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College ; Sibnath Sastri, M.A. ; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc. ; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
57	"Sansodhini" ...	Ohltagong	Do.	Ka Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years	300
58	"Suhrid" ...	Perojpur	Fortnightly	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha	200
59	"Sulabh Samachar"	Calcutta	Weekly	Jaladhar Sen, Kayastha, age 51 years	25,000
60	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto	Do.	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,500
61	"Siksha Samachar"	Dacca	Do.	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ... ..	.....
62	"Tippera Gulde" ...	Comilla	Do. ... ..	.....	.....
63	"Tippera Hitaishi"	Tippera	Do.	Kamaniya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years	70
64	"Vartabaha" ...	Banaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 41 years	500 to 600
65	"Viswavarta" ...	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L. ; Hindu, Baidya ; age 36 years.	12,000

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	HINDI.				
6	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya) ...	Monthly ...	.....	.....
67	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi ...	About 4,000
68	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do. ...	Daily ...	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi, Hindustani, Brahmin, age 45 ; 2, Panchcowri Banerji, age, 50, Brahmin.	300
69	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Patna ...	Weekly ...	Mahabir Prasad Bania ...	400
70	"Biharee" ...	Bankipore ...	Do. ...	Akhauri Basudeo Narayan Singh and Purushottam Prasad Sarina.	700
71	"Ghar Bandhu" ...	Ranchi ...	Fortnightly ...	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott ...	1,350
72	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Hari Krishna Joahar, Khetri, age 36 years ...	1,500
73	"Hitvarta" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Babu Rao Paradkar ; Mahratta, Brahmin ; age 30 years ...	3,000 to 4,000
74	"Lakshmi" ...	Gaya ...	Monthly ...	Mahadeo Prasad, age 38 years ...	200
75	"Marwari" ..	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	B. K. Tebriwalla ; Hindu, Agarwalla ; age 41 years ...	500
76	"Siksha" ...	Bankipore ..	Do. ...	Pandit Sakal Narayan Pandey Kavyatirtha, Brahmin ...	200
77	"Mithila Mihir" ...	Darbhanga ...	Do. ...	Pandit Joganand Kumar ...	600
78	"Satya Sanatan Dharma."	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Radha Mohan Gokulji ; Hindu, Vaisya ; age 47 years ...	500
79	"Tirhut Samachar"	Muzaffarpur ...	Do. ...	Sangeswar Prasad Sarma, Brahmin ...	400
	URDU.				
80	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	Weekly ...	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 years ...	500
81	"Darul Hukumat"	Calcutta ...	Weekly and bi-weekly.	Hafiz Bux Ellahi, Muhammadan, age 42 years ...	1,000
82	"Durbar Gazette"...	Do. ...	Daily ...	Nawab Ali, Muhammadan ...	1,000
83	"Star of India" ...	Arrah ...	Weekly ...	Muhammad Zahurul Haque, Muhammadan, age 61 years ...	657
	PERSIAN.				
84	"Habul Matin" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly and daily	Syed Jelaiddin, Shiah Muhammadan, age 61 years ...	1,000
	URIYA.				
85	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talchar State ...	Weekly ...	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	In Orissa.
86	"Sambalpur Hitashini."	Deoghar ...	Do. ...	Dina Bandhu Gornayak, Chasa, age 37 years ...	Do.
87	"Samvad Vaheka"	Balasore ...	Do. ...	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 37 years ...	400
88	"Uriya and Nava-samvad."	Balasore ...	Do. ...	Bam Tarak Sen ; Hindu, Tamil ; age 50 years ...	450
89	"Utkal Varta" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hrisikesh Pandey Kaviraj ...	500
90	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	Do. ...	Gouri Sankar Ray ...	,200

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st May 1912.

No.	Name of Publication,	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation
1	"Sarba Hitaishi"*	Bankipore	Daily	Mahabir Prasad, (caste and age not known).	Not known.
2	"The Calcutta Advertiser."	General Calcutta	Weekly.		
3	"Narad"	Chapra	Ditto.		
4	"Narad"	Ditto	Daily.		

No 33 "Medinipur Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 200 to 450

No 34 "Medini Bandhav"—the circulation has gone down from 600 to 426

No. 38 "Murshidabad Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 162 to 200.

No. 45 "Pabna Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 100 to 500.

No. 27 "Jyoti"—the circulation has risen from 930 to about 1,800—2,000.

No. 57 "Sansodhini"—the circulation has risen from 300 to 400.

* Defunct.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

REPRODUCING, from the *Egypt* [London] of May 1912, an account of the bombardment of the Meshed shrine as given by a European eye-witness, the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th June observes that the evidence throws light on the barbarity and uncivilized condition of the Russians. Let us see, says the paper, how the English Consul-General, who has also been an eye-witness of the incident, submits his formal report and the light in which Sir Edward Grey views the Russian high-handedness towards Islam. The truth is that it is the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907 which is now annihilating Islam and Persia. As this Convention was concluded by Sir Edward Grey himself he would interpret all its evil consequences in his own way, and so what is left for the Muhammadans is to sit still and patiently look on.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
June 17th, 1912.

2. Noticing the meetings held at Lucknow, Benares, Meerut, Panipat, etc., by the Muhammadans to express their disgust and anger at the Russian tyranny in Meshed, the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th June writes:—

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
June 17th, 1912.

From the information received up to this time it appears that the Muhammadans have up till now held meetings at some 66 different important places of India, entering their protests and applying to the English Government for help to put a stop to any further desecration of the Meshed shrine by the Russians. The reply received in most cases is full of sympathy and support. But mere words of sympathy cannot make up either for the thundering of the Russian guns or the humiliation and injury done to the Muhammadan hearts. The Muhammadans desire that the English and the Indian Governments should intervene, and call on Russia to desist from committing any more outrages which are so fatal to Islam; and, should Russia refuse, to bid farewell to her friendship for the sake of reconciling their 100 million subjects. After her defeat in the Far East, Russia, now known as the enemy of Islam, was, till the conclusion of the alliance, never so strong as to be able to humiliate the Muhammadans. It may, therefore, be asserted that the arrow which Russia now throws has been received from the English. Russia cannot defame the Islamic relics, break the hearts of the Musalmans and destroy the sovereignty of Persia if the English Government stands firm and desires her to put a stop to such things. But the question is, will the voice of the Musalmans change the policy of Sir Edward Grey?

3. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th June notices the meetings held by the Calcutta Musalmans in the premises of the Anjuman Moinul Islam, 130 Lower Chitpur Road, to express their resentment and indignation at the Russian tyranny in Khorassan.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
June 17th, 1912.

4. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th June reproduces the following from Turkish papers:—

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
June 17th, 1912.

Italy is mistaken if she means to make a dupe of the European Powers by telling them that the opening of the Dardenelles meant the defeat of Turkey. The impression at Rome is that the Turkish Government has no right to close the Dardenelles and that stopping Italy from bombarding the same amounts to an interference on the part of the European Powers. But the Powers themselves think otherwise.

Now Italy is trying to stop communication between Tripoli and Turkey as well as Tunis, so that the Arabs may be obliged to surrender through want of food supply, but the question is how can she achieve this end by starving out the people when she could not do it by cannon balls.

5. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th June reproduces an article from the *Egdam* of Constantinople, which recounts how the Cabinet and the Government of Persia failed to establish a powerful Government in the country, in spite of their helping Russia and England to

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
June 17th, 1912.

Circulation

Not known.

attain their respective objects, how Persia handed over the customs of the country to Russia and England and acknowledged their respective spheres of influence in Persia in consideration of a loan from the two countries, how Russia by repeated ultimatums forced Persia to dismiss Mr. Shuster and appoint a Belgian, whose object is only to overburden Persia with English and Russian loans, and lastly how one of the Russian deputies caused the recent tragedy at Meshed.

HITAVARTA,
May 24th, 1912.

6. Referring to the account published in the *Punjabes* newspaper of Lahore of interference with the religious practices of Hindus and outrage on a Hindu woman in Afghanistan, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 24th

May says:—

History bears evidence to the fact that it was the wails and tears of Hindu women which led to the downfall of the Moghul Empire. We pray to the Government of India at once to enquire into the matter noted above.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 25th, 1912.

7. In its leading article, under the marginally noted heading, describing the huge naval programme of Russia for the next five years, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th June makes the following observations—

The whole world is to-day under the servitude of the Christians. But have they become rulers of the world by following the teachings of Lord Jesus Christ? No, never. Nobody can become the master of the world without acting against the commandments of Jesus Christ. Most of the Christian kingdoms cannot, therefore, call themselves virtuous. Still some shameless Christian missionaries, we notice, indulge in reviling those professing other religions without rhyme or reason, instead of improving the character of their own co-religionists. A clergyman, named Elwin, while speaking in the Westminster Church House made insulting remarks on the Hindus and their religion. He called the Hindu religion as founded by Satan, while he exalted Christianity to heaven. But what would Christ say if he comes back to the earth and observes the conduct of his followers? The greed for others' wealth and kingdom has become exceedingly strong among the Christians, while Christ's teaching is "Thou shalt not steal." Italy is snatching away Tripoli from Turkey, and Russia has firmly set her eyes on Persia. Still the Christians are virtuous while the Hindus are not. "Just see the virtuous crane here by the side of the Pampa tank" . . . these words of Ram to Lakshman (directing attention to the hypocrisy of the crane which walked guardedly, apparently for fear of treading on some living thing, but actually to avoid scaring away the fish which it meant to catch) apply to such virtuous people.

The Christians' thirst for conquest has not been quenched. They are ever thinking of encroaching upon some kingdom or other. They will pounce down upon a weak State, just like vultures on a dead body. Morocco and Persia are instances in point, but in due course when there are no more such States left to conquer, these European Powers will, as sure as anything, come to blows among themselves. Preparations are already on foot for such a catastrophe.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION,

(a)—Police.

NAYAK,
June 20th, 1912.

8. Writing on the prevalence of "lawlessness in the Basirhat subdivision," the special correspondent of the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 20th June says that, alighting at the Swarupnagar station on the Baraset-Basirhat Light Railway, he learnt from the Station Master, who was a Musalman named Shaikh Golam Majed, that a dispute of a very serious character was going on between a few families of Shaikh and Saiyad Musalmans living at village Khaspur, and the mass of Musalman cultivators of that and the neighbouring villages. The correspondent, who is a Musalman, next went to a village named Baragobra, half-an-hour's walk from the station, and was

greeted by a number of Musalmans who were talking and smoking away in a road-side house. Questioned by the master of the house, Mulluck Chand Mandal by name, he said that he was an inhabitant of Calcutta, and a friend and relative of the Khaspur Musalmans to whom he was going. He said this latter thing, which was not in fact correct, simply to know the feeling of Mulluck Chand and the others towards the Khaspur men. At this, however, they refused to allow him to smoke their *hooka*, and even to help him in getting a bullock-cart for his journey to Khaspur, for, they said, they had taken a vow not to help the Shaikhs and Saiyads of that place. Their grievance against the Khaspur men was that, being respectable, the latter were unable to help them by doing the sort of work which they, cultivators as they were, did. The correspondent then walked to Khaspur in the absence of a cart, and enjoyed the hospitality of a local Musalman. The village is populated entirely by Musalmans, of whom about 25 families are Shaikhs or Saiyads, and they are locally called Asrafs. The rest are Musalman cultivators. On further enquiry, the correspondent learnt that the Musalmans belonging to the cultivating class of villages Shibpur, Khaspur, Yadurhati, Serpur, Baragobra, Panigobra, Rajbaria, Agapur, Bunarati, Nagarkachua and so forth, had united themselves against the Asraf Musalmans of Khaspur and were committing indescribable oppressions on them for two months continuously. The police is doing nothing, although Saiyad Muhammad Mustafi, the President Panchayet, is sending reports of the situation three or four times every day to the thana.

9. In continuation of the previous correspondence, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 21st June publishes the following:—

"Lawlessness in Basirhat."

On the morning of the 9th June I was proceeding towards the village of Yadurhati, situated to the north of Khaspur. On my way thither, I had to pass through the village of Fakirpara or Madar Dighi Fakirpara. While passing through this village, I came across three or four men sitting on the road side smoking. Just as I had left them behind, one of them called up in a very aggressive tone: "Where are you from and whither are you going?" He further inquired where I was putting up. I replied that I was an arrival from Calcutta and had spent the night before at Khaspur. I then entered into conversation with the man and learned that his name was Rahim Buksh Shahaji *alias* Rahim Fakir. Rahim asked me why I was visiting their neighbourhood. I pretended that I had come to study local conditions, with a view to opening a jute *godown* there on behalf of Messrs. Ralli Brothers; and that I had already secured the help of the Miyans of Khaspur towards my project. This mention of the name of the Khaspur Miyans elicited from Rahim the news that he and his party had ceased to call Mostaki Miyan etc., of Khaspur, by the honorific appellation of Miyans. On my pointing out that the Khaspur Miyans were a respectable family and well deserving of the name of Miyan, Rahim went on to argue that Moslems were all equal, recognizing no distinction of social status; until the Khaspur family acknowledged this, Rahim and his party would place them under a ban: that, in order to punish the Khaspur family, the people of his village and six or seven other adjoining villages had gone on strike.

Continuing the conversation, I gathered that Bachhtulla Mandal and Keyachhtulla Mandal of Madar Dighi were the leaders of Rahim and the strikers. I asked Rahim how under British rule it was possible for anybody to punish another man wrongfully and illegally. To this Rahim replied that everyone, from the Daroga of the thana to the Deputy Magistrate, was subservient to Bara Miyan (Bachhtulla Miyan or Mandal). Only the other day, the Deputy Babu came and took away some fish from the Bara Miyan's tank. I asked: "How long ago was that?" He said: "Not quite a month yet."

I was dumbfounded by this statement by Rahim Bux. By what canon of right did the Deputy Magistrate dare, while visiting the place ostensibly to enquire into the indescribable oppression committed on some eminent Musalmans of Khaspur, to take a number of fish from a tank belonging to the leader responsible for those oppressions, and further to leave to him the composition and settlement of the dispute?

NAYAK,
June 21st, 1912.

Leaving Rahim Bax after this, I continued my journey to Yadurhati, where from a number of respectable people I gleaned information which made me doubt whether this place was under British rule or not. It is amazing that through the inattention of the Deputy Magistrate and the neglect of duty on the part of the police, oppression and injustice should freely be committed by ignorant, boorish rustics on a number of cultured respectable folk, so far without any remedy whatever. I propose in a subsequent issue to give a list of outrages committed during the past two months, and to show the sympathy the local police have shewn to the weaker party in the struggle. A force of punitive police is necessary to stem the tide of this oppression, and save the honour of respectable citizens.

NAYAK,
June 23rd, 1912.

10. In the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June the correspondent goes on to say that he went to the house of Bachhtulla and Kerachhtulla Mandal, the brothers who lead the disturbance. He saw a large gathering in the house, but, as on seeing him the people stopped the discussion which was going on, he heard only a few disconnected parts of sentences from a distance, such as, "Need not be anxious about that, but no mark is left there is no want of money will not go against revenge of Kolsur the last of life the resolve of us two brothers." The people told him that if he wanted their help in his business he must give up all intercourse with the Khaspur men, for, they said, whoever spoke with the Khaspur men was their enemy. They then told their grievances against the Khaspur men, which related to social affairs and the principal of which was concerning the marriage of a son of one of the leader brothers. Their version of this marriage affair was, however, an altogether false one. On enquiry, the correspondent has learnt that the two brothers depend much on one Jamiraddi, an old convict and *gunda*. He is an inhabitant of Rajbari, a village adjoining Khaspur, which contains a few families of high-class Mussalmans. These high-class Mussalman families also are being oppressed and persecuted like the Khaspur men. In fact, they and the Khaspur men do not dare stir out of home after dusk, and their women not even in day time. They do not get labourers, so that the standing crops in their fields are being destroyed for want of care, and in future the fields will not be cultivated.

NAYAK,
June 25th, 1912.

11. In the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th June the correspondent writes as follows:—

Ibid.

It is raining here heavily night and day. This incessant rainfall is benefiting the agriculturists. The measure of oppression by the strikers continues the same. I have already said that no cultivation has been possible this year. Maulvi Saiyud Muhammad Mustafi and Munshi Gholam Mandal Shaheb sowed some bighas with *aus* paddy and jute, but it has all gone for nothing for want of looking after: and further it has not been possible to sow seeds of the *aman* paddy either. And yet in this rainy season, there should be a transplanting of the *aman* paddy. For none of the poorer people of Khaspur it is possible to stir out of home to go to *hāt* or *basar*. One day Rahim Baksh Shahaji, Eshahak Mandal and some others attempted to assault a poor respectable Musalman named Mir Abdus Samad at the Yadurhati *hāt*, but Abdus Samad was saved because of the shelter afforded him by some local shop-keepers. A man named Sheikh Gholam Murtaza was the lessee of the local cattle pound for this year. But he has met with misfortune and loss at the very beginning of the year. I hear that the money he has laid out this year is to bring in no return; one day, after sun-down as he was returning from the pound, a number of people fell on him and assaulted him. Gholam Murtaza lodged a complaint before the courts, but he has been compelled to withdraw the complaint under threats of injury to his person. And yet Gholam Murtaza has now been compelled, in a manner, to flee from the village, for it was not possible for him at all to stir out of his house. Though it is possible for the Miyans to stir out a little to do their marketing, they are forced to carry their purchases home themselves. A man named Sheikh Aziz-ul Huq has been compelled to flee from his village.

One Elem Mandal of Khaspur was assaulted twice in the *hāt* because at first he did not join the strikers. Some poison has been put into the waters

of the two tanks of Munshi Gholam Mandal, and all the fish therein destroyed in a single night. This year the mango crop in this locality has been a failure; such mangoes as were actually grown have been seized by the strikers acting in gangs. The case is about the same with jack-fruits.

Two inhabitants of Khaspur named Sheikh Bari Nawraz and Sheikh Abdul Hamid are employed in the Baduria Sub-Registry office. Baduria is about two miles from Khaspur. These men travel every day from their homes to Baduria. It is often a rather late hour in the evening before they can return home. They also have been threatened in various ways. If the local authorities can reassure them and guarantee their safety they may consent to disclose everything about these threats. No one may possibly stir out of his home after evening. Every one is in a panic because of outrages committed by thieves or other lawless characters. If anybody comes from some other distant village to pay a friendly visit, he is assaulted. Recently, one Panchu Sardar of the village of Gokua, out of pity came to hire himself out as a labourer under the Miyans. At first he himself, and later on two or three of his companions, were severely assaulted and disabled. Panchu has instituted a suit before the Magistrate of Basirhat.

When the strikers were assaulting Panchu, Panchu is reported to have said, "Very well, I will take my revenge for this at the Gokria hat." This news spread with lightening speed among all the strikers; and the next day, the 15th June, some 300 or 500 men in bodies, carrying *lathis* proceeded to the Gokria hat to assault Panchu. But luckily Panchu was not at home on that day; and such of his party as were present did not make any reply to the abusive epithets showered on him in his absence. But for this act of forbearance, there is no knowing what dire blood-shed there would have been on that day.

The strikers are constantly going about publicly holding out threats of injuring the person, to the point of causing death even. They have come to know that I am a newspaper reporter, and it is said that they are meditating an attack on me also. Let us see what God has in store for me; but I am soon going to return to Calcutta.

I have already stated that the persons who are responsible for bringing about this lawlessness are Bachhtulla Mandal and Kerachhtulla Mandal. Besides these, there are minor leaders in the villages. For example, at Khaspur, there are Eshahak Mandal, Nepal Mandal, Muqbul Mandal and his son. At Shibpur, Madardighi and Yadurhati villages there is Rahim Bux Mandal. At Rajbariya village there are Hasijaddi Mandal and Jamiraddi Mandal. At Bara Gobra village there are Sonaula Mandal and Mulluck Chand Mandal. At Asapur and Bunaryati villages there are Gholam Allbar Mandal and Akatulla Sarkar.

Dated the 21st June 1912.

12. Referring to the above reports of the special correspondent at Basirhat, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June says:—

"Lawlessness in Basirhat." The Babus who are eager to raise the depressed classes ought now to see the danger of their efforts. The Musalmans also have class distinctions amongst them, and high class Musalmans will never stand on the same platform with low class Musalmans. We ask Government why a punitive police force should not be quartered in the Basirhat locality to prevent low class Musalmans from oppressing high class Musalmans. In fact, the latter are praying for the quartering of such a force among them. The attention of the District Magistrate is drawn to the matter.

13. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 9th June says that the people of Vikram-pore have borne the burden of a punitive police force for one whole year, and it is high time that they should be relieved of it. Peace having been fully established in the place, there does not seem to be any more necessity for keeping a punitive police force there. The Dacca People's Association will, it is said, petition the Bengal Government in the matter.

NAYAK,
June 22nd, 1912.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 9th, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT MITRA.
June 20th, 1912.

14. Nobody has any reason to be dissatisfied, writes the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th June, with the judgment of the Calcutta High Court in the cotton-

Cotton-gambling.

gambling case ; for the question before the Hon'ble Judges was whether the cotton play was gambling under the existing laws and not whether it was gambling and an evil at all. The law is very clear on this point, and nobody can say that cotton play is gambling under it. But to expend public money on law suits was the order of the day under the administration of Sir Andrew Fraser, Sir Edward Baker and Sir William Duke. Perhaps never before was public money so misused as in the time of these rulers. The journal regrets that this prosecution was undertaken at the instance of the lawyers, since Rampratap Nemani, the foremost of the accused has unnecessarily been harassed and made to spend, as he says, some twenty thousand rupees in the case. If the accused made fortunes by cotton play, defect of legislation and neglect on the part of the Government alone are responsible for it.

The paper advises, in conclusion, that to avoid further delay Government of India should promptly prepare a Bill to check this evil and get it passed at the earliest opportunity available in a single sitting, as was the case with some of the dreadful legislations undertaken in the regime of Lord Minto.

HITVARTA,
June 23rd, 1912.

15. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June points out how the High Court's order has been taken by the appellants as a triumph over the Police in spite of the remarks

Ibid.

of the Judges that it is the most pernicious form of gambling, and how the gambling has been in full swing in the various quarters of the town ever since, and prays that the Government of India should in the interest of the public, pass an Act to stop this gambling, since there is yet some delay in the formation of the Legislative Council in Bengal.

DURBAR GAZETTE,
June 21st, 1912.

16. The *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta] of the 21st June remarks that the appellants and their accomplices have thus been

Ibid.

given a strong weapon to injure thousands of poor people, and that the evil will continue till a special Act is passed to stop it. The paper, therefore, requests the Hon'ble Members of the Imperial Council to introduce a Bill for this at their next sitting, and thus prove themselves to be faithful representatives of the poor Indians.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
June 20th, 1912.

17. The *Sri Sri Vishnu-Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th June, says that Government should at once stop cotton-gambling by means of legislation.

Ibid.

18. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 31st May, says that on the 15th May last, and the following day, its editor was again called to the Faridpur police-station to give evidence before the Deputy Superintendent of

SANJAY,
May 31st, 1912.

The Faridpur nautch affair and the Editor of the *Sanjay*.

Police on the nautch affair (see Report on Native Papers, dated the 27th April 1912, paragraph 15). This practice of calling editors of newspapers to police-stations for giving evidence on matters appearing in their paper is highly reprehensible, and likely to create an enmity between the press and the police. When the editor of a newspaper has said his say on a subject in the paper, it is useless to call him for making statements before police officers again. What is necessary is to take the evidence of other persons to prove the correctness or otherwise of what he has said in his paper. It is not known whether the practice of calling editors to give evidence before police officers on subjects discussed in their papers is approved of by the Inspector-General of Police. If not, the police officers enquiring into the Faridpore nautch affair have acted most arbitrarily by calling the editor of the *Sanjay* to give evidence before them. But if the Inspector-General approves of this practice, it is a serious handicap to editors in the proper discharge of their editorial duties. The attention of Lord Carmichael is drawn to the matter.

SANJAY,
June 21st, 1912.

European soldiers in a female compartment in a train.

19. Referring to the case reported in the *Bengales* of some European soldiers having entered into a female compartment occupied by a Bengali lady, and her little children, in the 56 down passenger train at Chandernagore on the 16th instant, and detained the train for 15 minutes by refusing to get out of the compartment, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 21st June says:—The

lady and her children were taken out through a window by some Bengali gentlemen. But the police and the station-staff looked quietly at the whole affair. If such an incident can happen at a large station like Chandernagore, Indian women cannot be considered safe in a train anywhere in India. The conduct of the police was most shameful and cowardly in the Chandernagore incident.

20. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June, draws the attention of the Government to the case in which one Gopal Barui, an inhabitant of village Bihar in Kachar,

BANGAVASI,
June 22nd, 1912.

Assam, has complained to the Deputy Commissioner of Silchar against the Manager of Vikrampore tea-garden to the effect that his wife has been sent off by the Manager to the Kalibari tea-garden without his knowledge, and that his application to him for her restitution has been of no avail.

21. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June draws the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces to the case reported in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* by the Secretary of the Lucknow Kurmi Association, *anent* the complaint made by one Kalindi and

BANGAVASI,
June 22nd, 1912.

Alleged abduction of a boy and a girl by Missionaries at Lucknow.

his eldest son Kalimprasad about the abduction of a nine-year-old boy and a fourteen-year-old married girl by some Missionaries at Lucknow, and prays for an immediate enquiry into it.

22. Referring to the increasing lawlessness and violence of the Pathans of the North-West Frontier Province, the *Hindi*

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 24th, 1912.

Pathan lawlessness in the Frontier Province.

Bangavasi [Calcutta] of the 24th June says that the only effective measure for the protection of the people of the province, specially the Hindus, would be to supply them with arms.

23. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June remarks with surprise how in a country governed by one King-Emperor as

BASUMATI
June 22nd, 1912.

Treatment of juvenile offenders in India.

India is, contradictory policies are often pursued—as for example in the matter of the treatment of juvenile offenders in which Sir John Hewett wisely counsels leniency in the United Provinces, while Sir Louis Dane sternly prescribes rigour in the Punjab. Sir Louis even threatens Magistrates with punishment who do not act on his view.

24. The *Bangasvi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June publishes the substance of a circular recently issued by the Government of the United Provinces setting forth the procedure which should henceforward be followed in those

BANGAVASI,
June 22nd, 1912.

A police circular in the United Provinces.

Provinces in cases of complaint against police-servants, and hopes that the attention of the Governor of Bengal will be drawn to this circular.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

25. Referring to the judgment of the Judicial Committee in the Clarke case, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 21st June writes :—

NAYAK,
June 21st, 1912.

As a result of this judgment, Brajendra Kishore Babu will probably have to pay down two lakhs of rupees as costs. If one attempts to rub a certain part of the body against a date tree, one must perforce suffer some irritation. Brajendra Kishore is a zemindar—a rich man. Living in the water he sought to quarrel with the crocodile; he must now suffer the bite. Of deeds done the consequences must be put up with, be they good or bad. Brajendra Kishore must necessarily reap the results of his own *karma*. For that we are neither sorry nor anxious. As a Brahman, a Brahman who believes in the *Sastras*, he will not lose his equanimity while he suffers from the effects of what he has done. But one thing we shall say, and it is this :—Under the present regime unless one is an abject pauper like ourselves with nothing to lose, no one is able to muster courage to lift up his head and speak out straightforwardly. He who has lands or houses or property, must necessarily continue bound to

* A wooden pot used for cleansing rice, etc. The allusion is to the story of infant Krishna having been once tied down to an *udukhal* by his mother Yasoda for some childish freak of his.

the *udukhal* of Jashoda.* The greater he is, the more will he be tied down. We at present are possessors of nothing; we say all sorts of things, and the Government graciously overlooks what we say. Bhupendra and Surendra are now both substantially moneyed men, and they have simultaneously come to put a curb on their tongues. When they had not amassed such money, they could speak out fearlessly too. It was not wise for Brajendra Kishore Babu to have imitated these creatures of the "Babu" species. Should a man enjoying the favour of Lakshmi (the goddess of prosperity) imitate those who are shut out from her favour? Brajendra Kishore overstepped the mark (lit. boundary line), and that is why he suffers.

Reuter has not been able to give an accurate summary of the judgment of the Privy Council. So we also are unable to say anything definitely. But it seems that, as a result of this judgment, the powers of District Magistrates are immeasurably increased; many *sabbardest* Civilians on coming to be the lords of districts may indulge in the utmost high-handedness. In Bengal there is only one Brajendra Kishore, and no second. No one else will go (again) through all this trouble and file a suit for damages against another official. We know as a fact how many people have had their houses searched, how many respectable ladies have been put to suffering, but has anyone of these sufferers filed suits for damage of any sort? Only on one occasion did a certain gentleman prepare for resistance and retaliation on the spot (lit. sending away a man after paying him down in cash). A police daroga attempted to enter a room where a young daughter of his was lying suffering from labour pains, with a midwife in attendance. It was then that the Babu arming himself with a *lathi* took his stand at the door, and in plain, direct and rustic language said, "Sala, if you want to enter this room, I will break your head." Save this instance, no one else ever made any sort of objection to house searches. So one has to say that the powers of the District Magistrate continue as before to be irresistible; rather, because of this judgment, all of them will henceforth act without fear. There can be no doubt that the executive gain in power by this (judgment).

The *Englishman* has said that by the publication of this judgment the executive will be made glad and the "Babu" class sorry. Indeed so. We shall remain sorry, anxious and alarmed, for we have to live in the mufassal saving our lives and honour. For, as regards worth and competence, present-day Civilians are immensely inferior and incompetent; they (are content to) accept knowledge at second hand, are stirred into activity by heat reflected from the sand. We do not say that they are any of them personally bad. But most of them love flattery, and are made to dance like wooden toys by cunning, sycophantic subordinate officials. A thousand times we have said that we do not shrink for fear of the Civilians; they are educated, amiable, liberal-hearted officials. But thanks to the atmosphere (literally water) and soil of India where they live, many of them have now become exceedingly fond of flattery. If we could write a true history of Bengal for the past seven years, we could show that in those districts where troubles and outrages occurred the local Magistrates of the time acted on knowledge acquired second hand. Herein lies the (cause of) fear. We said on a previous occasion that in this country the sweet words of the sycophant, the so-called loyalist, are to be dreaded more than bombs and revolvers, sedition and disaffection, and *swadishi* and boycott. Nothing will do so much serious harm to the country as the influence of these sycophants. But we must save our lives and honour to the full. As the Magistrate has unrestricted power, endless influence, we shall make a profound bow to him and sing his praises, shall conceal the truth with a sweet layer of flattering words, shall divert our rulers from the honest courses by streams of liquor in the shape of flattery. The poor and the weak in the land will heave long sighs, crying out "God save us." That can do no harm to you or to me—we shall make a livelihood for ourselves. The people of India have called on God repeatedly (for relief), and what if they have to do so this once also? Just read the journal of our leader Surendranath, the *Bengalee*. It is interspersed with pieces of sugarcandy throughout. If he can use language which keeps him within the bounds of the law, if he can indulge in irrelevant talk on all

subjects in order that he may save his money and honour and prosperity, why should not we, humblest of the humble, be able to do so. "Uncle, save thyself," is the cardinal principle (of conduct) with the present day Babu community. Ought one to give up this principle? But then, undiluted loyalty does not sell always and that is why we have to indulge in some sarcasms and jokes. For we are beggars, beggars only for a single pice. If we go without that pice, what pass shall we be reduced to? Do you understand, Englishman, what we really mean?

26. The judgment of the Privy Council, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June, was quite a surprise to the people, for no one ever thought that the

The Clarke case.

judgment given by the Chief Justice Sir Francis Maclean and Justice Harington would be treated in this way. Not only will this judgment cause Brajendra Kishore a loss of some two lakhs of rupees, but it will create an impression on the people that the Magistrate is omnipotent and can do justice or injustice as he likes, and that no one should protest against him. In fact if the Magistrate beats one with a shoe, the latter should, with this judgment before him, again place it in his hand for the same purpose, since there is no court superior to that of the Magistrate, and his judgment is more irrevocable than even the settled fact of Lord Morley.

27. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 24th June writes that the remarks of the judicial committee against the High Court have caused it anguish. Those remarks

Ibid.

may be quite justified, but as directed against an object of public admiration like the Calcutta High Court are bound to cause pain in India. The Indian maxim is that the truth, if unpleasant, should not be told.

This judgment will probably have the effect of preventing criminal cases against officials from being carried up to England again. If an official makes a house-search, thinking it necessary, what is there about it to form the matter of a law-suit? Officials should properly have large powers, else how can they carry on the administration? This judgment will have the effect of stopping waste of money in litigation in cases like this, and is on that ground to be welcomed. There has been too much of an inclination hitherto among some people to question the legality of acts done by officials and to rush to court over them. After all, why should not people lead quiet honest lives, promoting educational and religious and social reform, and giving politics a wide berth, so to say? Under such conditions they will not have occasion to resort to litigation at all. It is a pity that the people of the country cannot learn this lesson. He who is good himself, sees others and the world generally in the same light.

28. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June quotes from the *Bihar Advocate* a story of the vagaries of the senior

The vagaries of a Deputy Magistrate in Bihar.

Deputy Magistrate of Gya. He is usually meting out severe sentences to the majority of accused persons brought before him. Formerly, those who admitted their guilt used to be fined Rs. 10-8. That is not now the procedure adopted however. It is said that he has stated in court that he is acting in accordance with hints from superior officials, who recognize him as the saviour of the Municipality. He also behaves ill towards the Mukhtears, who have resolved to boycott his Court, till he mends his ways. The matter demands prompt notice from the authorities.

29. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June draws the attention of the Viceroy to the case, reported in the *Bengalee*, in which 23 coolies, male and female, of the Duar-

A tea-garden cooly case.

bandh tea-garden in Cachar, Assam, have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment on charges of having assaulted the Assistant Manager of the Garden, rioting and so forth. The case was tried by Mr. Jackson, Deputy Commissioner, in the garden, a distance of ten miles from Silchar, and all the accused persons were undefended. Babu Sasindra Sinha had wired to the Chief Commissioner for making some arrangement for the defence of the persons, but to no effect.

30. Noticing the same case, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th

A case against tea-garden coolies.

June remarks:—What was it that provoked so many coolies to violence? Why women have been

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 23rd, 1912.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
June 24th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
June 21st, 1912.

BANGAVASI,
June 22nd, 1912.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 24th, 1912.

so severely punished in this case? Will His Excellency the Viceroy take notice of the proceedings in this case?

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

31. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June writes on the authority of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* that, in connexion with the inquiry held by the Commissioner of the Surma Valley Division and the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet into the complaints made against Mr. Gordon, the Subdivisional Officer of Maulvi Bazar, Sashindra Babu, one of the petitioners against Mr. Gordon, received treatment from the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner, which showed that their frame of mind while holding the enquiry was not judicial. Sashindra Babu was not summoned to appear. He himself asked for permission to appear, which was granted. He was prepared to substantiate some of his complaints, but no heed was paid to that and the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner cross-examined him for 2 hours, finishing up with an innuendo that Sashindra Babu's complaints were interested ones. Other men who went to interview the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner were not even offered chairs to sit on. We did not know that in the wilds of Assam courtesy and politeness had disappeared like this. We trust Sir A. Earle in considering this question will rise superior to considerations of love for his subordinates and do real justice.

BARISAL HITASHI,
June 17th, 1912.

32. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 17th June refers to the grief caused to the convicts in the Dacca conspiracy case and their friends by the disappointment of the general expectation that the period of almost two years already spent in *hajat* will be deducted from the term of sentence awarded to each convict. The case of Pulin Babu is specially hard. Will not Government deduct from his sentence of seven years the period of 14 months he passed in confinement in Montgomery Jail under Regulation III of 1837? This Dacca case has been conducted as regards the defence under specially difficult conditions. The defence Counsel and Vakil were kept under police surveillance and so were the relatives of some of the accused. The defence was also handicapped by the prolongation of the case over the long period of two years. Then further many of the accused were poor men and their relatives also were poor who had to come from distant places to look after the case. The fact that so many of the accused have been let off on appeal suggests that if the High Court had dealt with the case in original before a special Tribunal, as would have been the usual procedure in such cases, and thereby an opportunity had been afforded to the Hon'ble Judges to study the demeanour of the witnesses and the mode of putting questions to them, all the accused would probably have been let off. And what is more, the case would have been brought to a speedier close. The prolongation of the proceeding and the holding of the court at Ramna outside the limits of Dacca Town made it difficult for the defence to secure adequate legal aid.

KALYANI,
June 19th, 1912.

33. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 19th June says:—
The new rule of appointing Honorary Magistrates for three years with the chance of their being reappointed after this period on the recommendation of the local Magistrate, is likely to interfere with the independence of these officers; for, the power of recommending them for reappointment lying with the local Magistrate, they may be subservient to him. Will it not be better for Honorary Magistrates to be appointed by the people? If the illiterate masses are unfit for the work, the educated middle-class may be entrusted with it. Honorary Magistrates taken from pleaders may be appointed by pleaders, and from zamindars by zamindars. Honorary Magistrates are not allowed to try cases sent up by the police. Why? It is said that Magistrates have to convict the accused persons in 99 out of 100 cases sent up by the police; otherwise they have to give explanations for their conduct. But considering the evil repute which the Bengal Police has got as regards efficiency and honesty, where is the guarantee that the cases which the police send up are all true? What is necessary is that Judges should have full independence in the discharge of their judicial duties, and we consider it unjust not to allow Honorary Magistrates to try cases sent up by the police.

(c)—Jails.

34. Noticing the appointment of a committee in the Punjab to make rules for the transfer of minor prisoners of the Salvation Army Jail in Punjab. Central Jail to the Jail Ward conducted by the Salvation Army, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th June warns the Hindus as well as Muhammadans to be on their guard, and to approach the Government of India for the protection of their children who when kept under the control of the Salvation Army will surely be influenced by Christianity in their tender age to the prejudice of their own ancestral religion.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 24th, 1912.

(d)—Education.

35. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th June writes:—

Sir Ashutosh Mukerjee and the
Palit endowment.

Long life to Sir Asutosh Saraswati! After Raja Rajballabh and Maharaja Nandakumar, who have upheld the Bengali name, there has been no Bengali yet like him. He is without an equal in India. Victory to Sir Ashutosh! He is a man for Bengal, and the Bengalis to glory in. If there is any Black man now alive in India who can pit his intelligence against Lord Hardinge's, he is Sir Ashutosh. If there is anybody who can checkmate His Excellency's moves, he is Sir Ashutosh.

NAYAK,
June 25th, 1912.

All these thoughts are suggested by the recent Palit endowment. The whole of educated Bengal will be grateful to Mr. Palit for his munificent gift. That, however, is not what we were going to say now. The point is Government is going to start a University at Dacca with an initial outlay of 10 lakhs. And the Dacca University will be a sort of natural enemy to the Calcutta University. Sir Ashutosh practically said as much in his Convocation address. He on that occasion claimed that the Calcutta University, too, was a residential and teaching University, such a one as Lord Hardinge proposes for Dacca. And now, ere the Dacca scheme has quite materialised, Sir Ashutosh with a sum of 10 lakhs is going to found a University College of Science. He is in a way saying to Lord Hardinge—Your Excellency, with all the resources of the Empire at your back you are going to found a University at Dacca with 10 lakhs, and here I am I quite a humble individual compared with yourself—about to start a College of Science for the Calcutta University with the same amount of money. It is as though Sir Asutosh proudly says:—I know how to build up a teaching university; and there is nobody else who can do that work as well as I can do. Do not be vain of your grant of 10 lakhs, it will go a very short way indeed to the building up of a real teaching university."

And not this only, by rescuing Mr. Palit's gift from the jaws of the National Council of Education Sir Asutosh has made a most shrewd move. Lord Hardinge is in a fix. He cannot censure Sir Asutosh for he has done a service to the cause of loyalty as none else has done by rescuing about eight lakhs of rupees from the clutches of a Nationalist party. This is a great achievement. At the same time, however, Sir Asutosh has not forgotten to ensure the permanent predominance of Indians in the University and the permanence of his own position (*vide* the conditions of Mr. Palit's gift). He has in fact hit three birds with one stone—loyalty, the University and Lord Hardinge. The effect of it all will be that the Dacca University will be born in a moribund state, the Calcutta Presidency College will be crippled and the private Indian colleges of Calcutta will be aggrandised. Government will do well to make over the Presidency College to Sir Asutosh's hands to be incorporated into the Palit College of science. Otherwise, Sir Asutosh is bound in time gradually to swallow up the college.

Sir Asutosh will now probably try to secure Dr. P. C. Ray's services. Unless Dr. Ray is now treated well by Government and promoted to the higher grades of the Indian Educational Service, he is sure to turn his back on Government service and accept Sir Asutosh's office.

It only remains for Sir Asutosh now to effect the ruin of the Delhi Oriental Institute, to be by (1) creating a Professorship of Indian History at the Calcutta University, and simultaneously (2) by amalgamating the Calcutta

Sanskrit College and the Asiatic Society of Bengal into one whole. If such a scheme as this matures the Delhi Institute will fall stillborn. By making Bengali a compulsory subject of study at the University, Sir Asutosh has effectually stopped all attempts at splitting it up into provincial dialects. And now come these moves of his! Verily he is unequalled. All success to him!

SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1912.

36. It is rumoured, writes the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th June, that

The Dacca University scheme.

the Dacca University Committee will not take the evidence of representative public men, but will simply record the result of its own deliberations in a report, and publish it for public opinion and criticism. By the adoption of this course the committee will fail to know the views of experienced educationists and representative Hindus and Musalmans in the country on the new University scheme.

The writer next recapitulates the views which have been published on the subject in the previous issues of the paper, and then proceeds as follows:—

Who shall constitute the Senate and the Syndicate of the new University? Who shall be its Vice-Chancellor and Registrar? The Calcutta University has in a manner been turned into a department of the Government, for only ten members of its Senate are elected and among these ten also there may be Government servants. And many of its nominated members are actually Government servants. Still there is an atmosphere of independence in the Senate and the Syndicate of the Calcutta University, which has often ignored the repeated complaints of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam against many schools and colleges, and enabled many a student of Eastern Bengal to prosecute their studies against the wishes of the Government. Even recently a student of the Jagannath College having been rusticated by the Principal and a so-called college council, the University has permitted him to prosecute his studies. All this makes the constitution of the Senate and Syndicate of the new University a matter of great importance. The Government has appointed a special educational officer at Dacca, in spite of a strong protest from the public. In Calcutta, the Director of Public Instruction is a member of the Senate, but the presence of a large number of learned and experienced members in it exercises a wholesome check on him. In the microscopical Senate and the Syndicate of the proposed Dacca University educational officers of the Government will become the principal members, and besides them there will be Professors of Colleges and perhaps a few independent non-officials. There the three authorities, viz., the colleges constituting the University, the Education Department and the Senate and Syndicate will be practically converted into one, for an appeal against an action of the Education Department or of a Professor of a College will be heard by a Senate or a Syndicate composed of the officers of that department and the Professors of such a college. The cause of justice and fair-play in the Calcutta University is upheld by a number of Professors of non-official Colleges and many independent official and non-official learned men. But where will the Dacca University get men like Sir Gurudas Banerjee, Dr. Rashbehari Ghosh, Mr. Justice A. Chaudhury, Dr. Chaudhury, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar, Babu Herambha Chandra Mitra, Dr. Suresh Prasad Sarvadhikary and Babu Deva Prasad Sarvadhikary? In the absence of men like these, the Senate and the Syndicate of the Dacca University will approve of everything which educational officers and Professors of Colleges will do in regard to students. In the recent case in the Jagannath College a student having been rusticated by the Principal, an appeal was made to the college council against the Principal's order, and the council held that the doings of the Principal, who was a member of the council, must be considered as doings of the council, and that no appeal lay to the council against the orders passed by the Principal. Who can guarantee that there will not be repetitions of this scene in the Senate and the Syndicate of the proposed University?

There are Universities at Oxford and Cambridge similar to the one proposed to be established at Dacca. But these Universities are independent of the Government, and in them political agitation is not considered criminal nor boyish pranks seditious. India is not England, and hence the strong protest of the public against the Dacca University scheme. And our fears on the subject have been increased by the appointment of a special educational officer at Dacca.

37. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 9th June approves of the general principles of the Dacca University scheme as laid down in the Government's Resolution on the subject, as the proposed University will not interfere with the jurisdiction of the Calcutta University outside Dacca town, and the authorities have expressed their desire to make education in it cheap enough to be within the range of the means of common people. The writer, however, thinks that it will not even be a very unjustifiable thing if education in the new University be made costly. But in that case the Jagannath College ought to be left out of its jurisdiction in order to provide education to the children of the poor inhabitants of the town. It is suggested that technical education should form an important part of the curriculum of the new University. As regards the opposition to the appointment of Mr. Nathan as President of the University Committee, the writer, though unwilling to enter into a discussion of the merits of individuals, holds that no better man than Mr. Nathan could be found in the Civil Service for the place. Mr. Nathan is a truly learned man and has a long experience of provincial educational matters under the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Moreover, the work which has been entrusted to the committee will in no way be affected by the opinion of any individual member of the committee. The President must be guided by the opinion of other members, and in all proceedings the policy inculcated by the Government must be followed. The individuality of the President is not, therefore, a matter of much importance in the case. The *Bengalee* says that Sir Gurudas Banerjee and Sir Ashutosh Mukherji refused to accept memberships of the committee on account of Mr. Nathan having been appointed President. If true, it does not speak well for the good sense of these two gentlemen. But it cannot be believed that men like Sir Gurudas and Sir Ashutosh can be guilty of such thoughtlessness. It is hoped that they will help the committee in every way.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 9th, 1912.

38. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 20th June says:—

Dishonest clerks in colleges. We have a prayer to make to Sir Ashutosh. The oppressive habits of the clerks of some of the colleges have become serious obstacles in the way of the education of many boys. These clerks must be propitiated by students at the time of their being enrolled, at the time of their being sent up for examinations, at the time of drawing scholarships, and even at the time of taking medals. In fact, nothing can be done by the student so long as the god, the college-clerk, is not well satisfied. The power of this god is so great that he can make a lame man cross over a mountain, give learning to a fool, pass a plucked boy and pluck a passed boy. Fear of the law prevents us from mentioning individual names. But if Sir Ashutosh would so desire, we can lay before him personally an account of what happens at the time of enrolling students in colleges. To Mr. Kitchler also we can reveal everything. It is high time that the scandal should be checked, for it is in every boy's mouth.

NAYAK,
June 20th, 1912.

39. According to the rules of the University, writes the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th June, every class in a college may contain 150 students, so that 300 students may be admitted in the 1st year Arts and Science classes. The Principal of the Presidency College has, however, announced that he will admit only 130 students in these two classes. Such a course may lighten the labour of Professors, but causes great inconvenience to students, many of whom are obliged to give up their studies in consequence of failing to secure admission in a college. The Hooghly College also admits a very small number of students. Again, in many colleges students suffer great oppression at the hands of clerks during the period of admission. We, therefore, hope that this year Principals of Colleges will themselves select students for admission, instead of entrusting the work to clerks. We do not know why, but it is a fact that inferior students are often admitted in preference to students of superior merit. We request all college authorities to see that such injustice does not take place in the present session.

SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1912.

40. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 21st June publishes a letter pointing out that the Albert Hall was built by public subscription eked out by a Government grant, and

The Albert Institute.

NAYAK,
June 21st, 1912.

was meant to be a public reading and lecture hall. The building was placed in the keeping of a society duly registered in 1877 under Act XXI of 1860, and consisting of 15 eminent men of the time. A school and a college, too, subsequently came to be housed in this Hall. At the present time, however, all these—the school, the college, and the reading room—are gone; and the rooms are rented by the Education Department.

The old trustees, too, now are gone. New trustees have not been appointed from time to time as required by the law. The General Secretary to Government and the Director of Public Instruction were declared to be *ex-officio* trustees by the rules of the Albert Institute. But there is none now probably alive who can be held to be a representative of the trustees. And yet the capital value of the property is at least a lakh and-a-half. Let the attention of the Bengal Government be drawn to the matter.

NAYAK,
June 26th, 1912.

41. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 26th June asks Government to take steps to secure the Albert Hall for the public benefit. It is lying unclaimed. Let Sir Asutosh

attend to the matter. Why should not he also absorb Dr. Sarkar's Science Association into the University?

MUHAMMADI,
June 21st, 1912.

42. Writing in the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June, Muhammad Fakiruddin Sarkir, teacher, Keshavpur Sukanpur, Bogra, dwells on the shabby treatment which girls' schools receive in the mufassal from educational

officers. The rule is that the teacher of a lower primary girls' school is to receive aid from the Government at the rate of 8 annas per student of the highest class, and at lower rates for students of lower classes. But in practice no such teacher receives aid according to any definite rule. Moreover, the aid which he receives is not paid to him regularly. Sometimes, a year elapses before he gets any money from the authorities. This entails great hardship on poor teachers. Again, inspecting officers often stand in the way of the education of girls by refusing to sanction the appointment of young men as their teacher. Of course, a teacher's character is a matter of very great importance in a school, be it for boys or for girls. But when a young man is appointed teacher of a girls' school by the very villagers whose daughters and sisters he will teach, it ought to be taken for granted that he is a man of character. Moreover, the girls who read in a school are so tender in age that any misbehaviour with them is a physical impossibility. Hence, instead of hampering the cause of girls' education, inspecting officers ought to see that girls in schools are given useful education, moral, religious and sanitary.

MUHAMMADI,
June 21st, 1912.

43. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June publishes a correspondence in which it is said:—

Alleged ill-treatment of a Muslim student by a Head-master.

We regret to have to notice an instance of the narrowmindedness of the Head-master of the Solap High English School within the Serajganj subdivision. The school is situated in a zamindar's house, and of its 400 students about 300 are Muslims. In April last, a Hindu student and a Muslim student were talking together in a class, when the former asked the latter, why do you kill animals? The Muslim boy asked in reply, do you not kill animals? The Hindu boy replied, we do, but before our Kali! The Muslim boy asked, is not that cruel, for Kali has no life and cannot eat? The Hindu boy said, do not say so, or you will die. The Muslim boy said, why, the cow-boys who this year battered and broke the image of Kali in Muchipara with their *lathis* have not died! The Hindu boy then complained to the Head-master against the Muslim boy on the ground of this conversation. The Head-master became fired with anger, beat the Muslim boy, and in conjunction with the Hindu members of the school committee recommended his rustication to the Divisional Inspector of Schools, and the Inspector accepted this recommendation without entering into the merits of the case. Astonishing, indeed, is the Head-master's sense of justice and generosity! Was not the sound beating which the Muslim boy of 7 or 10 years of age received at his hand sufficient punishment for the offence he had committed? Must he also be ruined for good? We pray to the Government and the Director of Public Instruction to save the poor boy.

The editor draws the attention of the authorities to the above case and prays for justice to the poor Musalman boy.

44. The *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 22nd June ascribes the backwardness of the Biharis to their utter neglect of their own mother-tongue, and their inability to master the universal vernacular Hindi. The journal regrets that in the new province, while Orissa has its own literature and Uriya is recognized in schools and colleges, the local dialects of Bihar are quite uncared for.

The people of Tirhut have, the paper adds, natural difficulties in learning Hindi. Many students fail to pass the Sanskrit examinations held under the auspices of the Bihar Sanskrit Sanjivan, merely owing to their deficiency in Hindi. To facilitate education specially among the females, it is highly desirable to prescribe for the primary schools text books written in Tirhuti.

The journal learns with satisfaction that Government has undertaken an investigation into the Mithila literature, and suggests that the work should be entrusted, with much greater advantage, to the local men of letters. It is confidently hoped that Government will never be indifferent to the revival of the old literature of this vernacular, which would do immense good to its loyal subjects of Mithila.

MITHILA MIHIR,
June 22nd, 1912.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

45. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th June strongly protests against the rumoured conversion of the College Square in Calcutta into hostels for students. Five years ago there was a proposal to fill up the tank in the square and convert it into a play-ground. But even this proposal was then dropped on account of public opposition. It is, therefore, easily conceivable that the inhabitants of the city will never acquiesce in the abolition of the park. In fact, Calcutta can ill-afford to lose such a breathing space in the midst of a congested quarter. It is frequented by thousands of health-seekers in the morning and the afternoon, and is the only pleasure ground for boys in the locality. It is a place where Christian Missionaries preach their gospel, Musalmans say their prayers, Brahmos sing *sankirtans*, Hindus hold *melas* and the public hear and deliver speeches. The supply of tap-water in the city fails now and then. At such times the tank in the square quenches the thirst of hundreds of people. At times of University examinations the square affords resting place to the examinees during recess. The University has not the means to build rest-houses for them. How then can the square be closed? It is surrounded by schools, colleges, a municipal office, a market, the University Institute and so forth, and is consequently a most necessary open space for preserving the health of the crowded locality. A short time ago a large sum of money was spent for improving the square. All this expenditure cannot now be made purposeless by closing it. Let the inhabitants of the city set up a violent agitation for saving the square.

SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1912.

46. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June, noticing the above article of the *Sanjivani*, warns the Municipality that there would be violent agitation against any effort to fill up the tank. So it would be wise to give up the idea on the ground of sanitation, and because it is the only source of supplying drinking-water as it did before when the supply of filtered-water is ever stopped for any reason.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 23rd, 1912.

47. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June cannot understand why Babu Nilambar Mukerjee is not to act for Mr. Maddox. The Vice-Chairman's competence is beyond question, and it would be quite superfluous to try to prove it. He acted as Chairman once during Mr. William's incumbency, and his predecessor, Babu Gopallal Mitter, officiated as Chairman many times. But at the present moment all the higher executive posts in the Municipality are monopolised by Civilians. This is a strange development of self-government indeed.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

The Officiating Chairman of the
Calcutta Corporation.

MEDINI BANDHAV.
June 17th, 1912.

48. From January to April last, writes the *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapur] of the 17th June, 1,889 people died of cholera

Cholera caused by water-scarcity in Contai.

within the Contai subdivision of the Midnapur district, and from the report of the doctors who were sent by the District Board to the suffering villages with medical aid, it appears that want of wholesome drinking-water was the main cause of the outbreak of the epidemic. Now the question is, who will supply wholesome drinking-water to the poor villagers? What are the authorities doing whose subjects they are? It is said that the District Board spends Rs. 5,000 annually on the work of water-supply. But we see no evidence of this, save a well or two by the sides of some *serais*. How is the Board spending the money annually? Is it prepared to excavate even a single tank within the Contai subdivision? Has it prepared a list of the places which stand in greatest need of water-supply? Unfortunately for suffering villagers, the Government is unwilling, the zamindars who fatten themselves with the people's money are indifferent, and the people themselves are powerless. Who then will save the lives of the poor villagers by supplying them with good drinking-water? Have the Hindus forgotten that the *shastras* speak of water-supply as work of the highest religious merit?

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

BANGAVASI.
June 22nd, 1912.

49. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June publishes a Bengali

A serious railway complaint.

version of the complaint published in the *Bengalee* of the 15th instant, to the effect that a companion of Dr. Yatindranath Sen of Baidyabati, with whom was the doctor's case of medicines and instruments, was arrested at the Sheoraphuli railway-station while crossing the railway line in haste for going from one platform to another to catch a train on the Tarakeshwar line in which the doctor had already seated himself. On being arrested, the man earnestly requested the person who had arrested him to send the medical case to the doctor, but to no effect. He was handed over to the station police and detained. The doctor, on the other hand, had no knowledge of all that had happened, and went to Nalikul fully believing that his companion was in some other compartment of the train he was travelling in. From the Nalikul station he went to the house which had given him the call, saw the patient and wanted to give him a hypodermic injection. But the man who had his medical case with him did not turn up. Helplessly, he saw the patient die before his eyes.

The authorities are requested to enquire how far the above complaint is true.

HITAVARTA.
May 3rd, 1912.

50. The *Hitavarta* [Chittagong] of the 3rd May says that the Assam-Bengal Railway Company has been issuing

A railway complaint.

licenses for money through the Railway Police to hackney carriages intending to stand in the portico of the Chittagong station. Such carriages as have not taken these licenses are not allowed to stand there, but have to remain at a distance in the open. This causes great inconvenience to all classes of passengers during the rains, for all carriages have not taken licenses for standing in the portico. Moreover, the police insult the passengers who hire unlicensed carriages. Under the circumstances the Railway authorities are requested to give up the licensing system.

HITAVARTA.
May 24th, 1912.

51. The *Hitavarta* [Chittagong] of the 24th May thanks the Assam-Bengal Railway for the new intermediate class

A railway grievance.

carriages on the line, but says that the latrines with which they have been provided have no windows for ventilation. The attention of the Railway authorities is drawn to the matter.

(h)—*General.*

SAMAY.
June 21st, 1912.

52. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 21st June is glad at the conferment, though late, of a C. I. E'ship on Dr. P. C. Ray, and approves of the distribution of honours

The Birthday Honours.

to other distinguished Indians on the occasion of His Imperial Majesty's birthday. The Mahamahopadhyayaship and Shams-ul-Ulamaship have become rare, on account of these titles now carrying an annual pension. The new title of Vaidyaratna has been justly conferred on Kaviraj Yogendranath Sen, M.A., who is a learned man and has carried on researches in the Ayurvedic medical system.

53. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June fails to understand why Madras has been specially favoured this year in the matter of titles. Any way, Dr. P. C. Ray's

The Birthday Honours.

C. I. E. is most welcome. Bengal is sorry to see that the title of Mahamahopadhyaya has not been given to any Bengali this year, though Pandit Ajit Nath Nyayaratna of Nadia and Pandit Ramanuj Vidyaratna of the Hindu school would be worthy recipients of the honour. Babu Nagendra Nath Basu also should have been given a title in recognition of his great work in completing the Viswakosh.

The new title of Vaidyaratna is to be welcomed as an official recognition of the Ayurveda system of medicine. Babu Jogendra Nath Sen is a most worthy recipient of this new title, and Kaviraj Rajendranath Sen also would be another equally worthy.

54. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June also notices that Madras has been specially favoured this time. Bengal

Ibid.

has been neglected in the matter of titles ever since the days of Lord Curzon. The *Pioneer* professes to be satisfied with the list, and so humble creatures like ourselves must perforce be satisfied too. Europeans, as usual, figure prominently in the list. Dr. P. C. Ray's C.I.E. fills us with glory. The Maharaja of Hetampur, Raja Sarat Chandra Chaudhury (of Malda) and Raja Gopal Chandra Ray of Rangpur all have deserved their honours. But we miss a like honour for Rai Jyot Kumar Mukerjee of Utterpara. The two new Vaidyaratnas deserve their title, but Kaviraj Durga Prosad of Kumartoli, Syamadas of Grey Street, and Rajendra Nath of Kansari-para too ought to have been similarly honoured. Kaviraj Syamadas in particular is learned in many *shastras* and most richly deserves the title of Mahamahopadhyaya. He is the foremost man in his line in Calcutta. As for Rai Srish Chandra Sarvadhikary Bahadur, he has long been a Bahadur; his career shows that perhaps the Duke of Chorbagan will have been a suitable title. We are pleased at Tarak Babu's title, but he should have been a Rai Bahadur and not a Rai Saheb and so placed on a level with Haran (Rai Saheb Haran Chandra Rakshit). It is surprising that Rai Jyot Kumar Mukerjee is not yet a Raja.

55. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June deprecates the haste in removing the Government of India offices from

Temporary Delhi.

Calcutta which makes necessary the building of a temporary Delhi at a heavy outlay, and dwells on the danger to the health of the Bengali clerks of these transferred offices involved by their having to occupy quarters built in the swampy Durbar area. Delhi, as it now is, is malarious and suffers from extremes of heat and cold. Let Government wait and remove the offices to Delhi only after permanent offices and quarters have been built in the area selected by the experts for the permanent Capital.

56. We, writes the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June, did not protest against the Delhi changes, because, firstly, they had been announced by His Imperial Majesty, and,

The Delhi Capital.

secondly, Delhi, the ruined seat of Musalman greatness in India, was to return to her former glory. But now we hear that the engineers from England have expressed their opinion that the capital ought to be built at a great distance from the city. Our hope of seeing Delhi restored to her former greatness has thus been frustrated. We, therefore, pray the Government to return to Calcutta.

57. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th June thinks that the proposal to import lady

Lady doctors from England for India.

doctors from England for *purdanashin* Indian women, has emanated from the medical women of

England more out of interested than philanthropic motives. This is evident from an article written by an English lady doctor in the *Daily Chronicle*, in

HITAVADI,
June 21st, 1912.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

HITAVADI,
June 1st, 1912.

MUHAMMADI,
June 21st, 1912.

SRI SRI
VISHNU PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 20th, 1912.

which she has alleged that *purdanashin* high class ladies, and very often even low class women in India, do not appear before male doctors. This is perfectly false. Ladies of respectable families in India appear before male doctors and are treated by them. Of course, in accouchement cases midwives and lady doctors are required. But for this special purpose it is necessary not to import lady doctors from England but to train Indian women in the art. What the medical women in England really want is to secure more than a thousand posts in the Indian Medical Service on fat salaries and prospects. It is the Indian village and not the Indian town which stands in crying need of midwives and lady doctors. But will lady doctors imported from England consent to live in malaria-stricken villages, and give medical aid to poor village women on very small fees? Surely not. Of what use then will they be to the masses in India?

JYOTI,
June 13th, 1913.

58. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 13th June supports the idea put forward by Messrs. S. N. Banerji and B. N. Basu, that membership of the Bengal Legislative Council should not in future be conditional on having put in a term of service in the District and Local Boards and on Municipalities. Experience shows that members returned to the Council under these restrictions usually keep silent and do not display any healthy activity. The *Statesman's* plea recently put forward against Messrs. Basu and Banerji's proposal, is hypocritical. If knowledge of mufassal conditions of life is so essential to a publicist, why do not the conductors of the *Statesman* pass their days in the villages? A short while ago, the *Statesman*, among other journals, condemned these members of local bodies for incompetence, for not displaying adequate interest in their duties. And yet now the same people are being lauded to the skies for their wisdom and superiority and patriotic service. This is really a mockery. The *Statesman* being ignorant of the actual facts of mufassal life had best keep silent in this matter.

JYOTI,
June 20th, 1913.

The law regarding Provident
Fund and Insurance Societies.

59. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 20th June asks Government to hestir itself in the matter of bringing into force, as early as possible, the law passed last winter about Provident Funds and Insurance Societies. The Local Government has not yet apparently framed the necessary rules under the Act. As it is, already some of these Funds are dying out by the operations of natural causes. No vigorous effort in yet apparent to put down fraud in connection with these societies.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 21st, 1913.

A defective postal rule.

60. After recounting the blessings conferred by the British Government on the Indians by its postal system, one Gopal Ram of Gahmar says in the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 21st June, that the refusal to return the money order commission paid by the sender of a value-payable parcel in case of its being refused, is the only blot on the fair name of Postal administration. The writer, therefore, hopes that the rule in this connection will be amended in the interest of the people of this country who, though living so long under the rule of a commercial nation, are quite devoid of any commercial instinct.

BIHAR BANDHU,
June 22nd, 1913.

High Court for the new province.

61. Referring to the Government of India's calling for opinion of the Government of Bihar and Orissa on the subject of giving a separate High Court to the new province, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 22nd June, hopes His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, considering the needs of the people, will not but recommend the establishment of a High Court at Patna since the new province badly wants it.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1913.

A High Court at Patna.

62. On the same subject the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June, writes that the "matured opinion" of the Local Government may possibly take a very short time to mature. And local public opinion, too, may be made to mature by influences not unknown. For the present, further criticism of the scheme may be withheld, save the remark that the separation will weaken the Calcutta High Court. The modification of the Partition did us good, but that good is being undone by various connected changes.

63. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June, says that now that it has been practically decided to establish a High Court in the new province of Bihar and Orissa, it should be seated at Ranchi instead of at Patna, which is a

Seat of High Court in the new province.

hot-bed of plague.

64. While expressing satisfaction at the appointment of Mr. Rafiq, as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, specially as he makes no distinction between Hindus and Musalmans, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 26th

Wanted a Hindu Judge in the Allahabad High Court.

June regrets the absence of a single Hindu judge on the Bench of the Allahabad High Court, and asks if there is no Hindu fit for such an appointment. Pandit Sundar Lal was appointed Judicial Commissioner, which post he resigned soon after his appointment; but the question is if he was ever offered a High Court Judgeship.

65. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 18th June, says that the people of the Mymensingh district are strongly protesting against the proposed partition of the district on the following grounds:—

The proposed partition of Mymensingh district.

(1) Living under the same district administration for a long time the inhabitants of all the subdivisions of the district have developed a very healthy feeling of unity and mutual sympathy amongst themselves, which will be destroyed by the proposed partition.

(2) The partition will weaken public opinion at Mymensingh.

(3) The necessity for a partition of the district can be removed by joining the Mymensingh town with the headquarters of the subdivisions of the district by railway lines.

(4) The pressure of work on the District Magistrate can be reduced by increasing the number of Magistrates in the district.

(5) The Zamindars of all parts of the district have spent money for improving the Mymensingh town, and equipping it with educational institutions, charitable dispensaries, water-works and so forth. Now, none of them is willing to part with these advantages of the town.

(6) The proposed partition will check the improvements which have begun in the town.

(7) The formation of a new district with the Tangail and Jamalpur Subdivisions and with headquarters at Jamalpur, will in no way serve to remove the present inconveniences of the inhabitants of the Tangail Subdivision.

(8) Why is Mr. Bonham-Carter so eager to establish the headquarters of the proposed new district at Jamalpur? The establishment of the headquarters of the new district at Jamalpur will, no doubt, facilitate the social intercourse between the Europeans residing in it and those residing at Mymensingh, but the interest and convenience of the public ought to be the first consideration of the Government.

The above is an enumeration of the grounds of protest of the public against the proposed partition. As regards the interests of individuals, many of the people who have built houses at Mymensingh will have to shift to another place, and many Zamindars will have to maintain two establishments, one at Mymensingh and another in the headquarters town of the new district, if the proposed partition is carried out. Again, in order to make Jamalpur a district headquarters town, the adjoining village Patalia must be included in it and acquired by the Government. Where then will the four or five hundred Musalman inhabitants of the village go? The inhabitants of all the Subdivisions of the district, with the exception of Jamalpur, are strongly opposed to the proposed partition, and even in Jamalpur there is a difference of opinion on the subject.

66. Mr. Bonham-Carter, Commissioner of the Dacca Division, writes the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th June, who is at present at Mymensingh, has been giving out that a

Ibid.

partition of the Mymensingh district has been decided upon and will be announced by Lord Carmichael on the 22nd July, when His Excellency will visit the place. The inhabitants of the district are, however, strongly opposed to the partition, for the new district, which will thus come into existence, will

NAYAK,
June 22nd, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 26th, 1912.

CHARU MIHIR,
June 18th, 1912.

SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1912.

be deprived of the advantages of the educational institutions and the water-works at Mymensingh. A partition, according to them, cannot therefore do them any good. If it is intended for the benefit of Civilians, it is submitted that the country does not exist to serve their interest. With a crying need for sanitary measures for the prevention of malaria, easier means of communication, provision of cheap education for the poorer classes and so forth, Mymensingh can ill afford to spend lakhs of money for constructing new public buildings and maintaining a new set of officers. Lord Carmichael has a keen sight, and will no doubt see through the motive of the Civilians in trying to bring about a partition of the district.

TIPPERA GUIDE,
June 18th, 1912.

67. The *Tippera Guide* [Comilla] of the 18th June publishes a letter in English discussing the relative merits of Daudkandi and Muradnagar as the site of the headquarters of

A new subdivision in Tippera.

the Subdivision, which it is said to be under contemplation to create either at or near Muradnagar in Tippera:—

(1) Daudkandi can claim some historic importance; before the Assam-Bengal Railway was opened, Daudkandi was the entrance gate to Comilla. All the officials and soldiers used to land at Daudkandi.

(2) The place has a natural beauty and possesses an excellent climate.

(3) The place would occupy the central position if the portion of the Dacca district lying to the east of the main current of the Megna be added to the Tippera district.

(4) The place is in the centre of a large tract of jute-producing country.

(5) Trade and commerce would be facilitated if a town is created at Daudkandi.

(6) The people of Daudkandi, Hamana, and Muradnagar would enjoy almost equal facility to go to Daudkandi.

(7) There being good navigable rivers on the west, north and south of Daudkandi and the Steamer Stations at Shatnal, and Sreemaddi being close by there is easy means of communication with the other parts of this and the Dacca District, and if a Steamer service is opened with Narayanganj or a Light Railway from Comilla to Shatnal, people would find no difficulty in moving to any place carrying on any trade.

The establishment of a subdivision at Muradnagar or any place near it would be attended with various inconveniences and hardships to various sections of the people.

(1) The place has no charm of its own.

(2) There is no easy means of locomotion from the place nor is there likelihood of establishing any. The steamer and the railway stations are far off from the place, no steamer communication is possible and railway line would not be productive of the largest good, nor is it expected to be lucrative.

(3) It occupies a sidal position of the three police-stations referred to above.

(4) The people of Daudkandi and Hamana thanas will be inconvenienced in various ways.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 24th, 1912.

68. Referring to the appointment of a European Engineer in Bombay

Why not an Indian appointed.

for the supervision of water-pump and other machines in that Presidency, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th June asks—Was there not a single Indian Engineer found in the whole province qualified for the post?

HITAVADI,
June 21st, 1912.

69. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June protests against the idea

The appointment of Factory Inspectors.

that Government should appoint Europeans as Factory Inspectors, as going against liberal policy and against the King's declarations, and as provocative of discontent. Certainly, European Factory owners who employ Indian labour cannot resent the sight of an Indian Factory Inspector. The new policy is amazing and will cause indignation. Let not Lord Hardinge encourage it.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

70. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June cannot understand why

Apprentice Telegraph Signallers and Indians.

Eurasians and Anglo-Indians only are to be allowed to appear at the examinations about to be held at Dacca and Gauhati for recruiting apprentice telegraph signallers. Why should natives be excluded? Is it

because Europeans and Eurasians cannot beat them in open competition? We protest against these colour distinctions.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

71. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June dwells with regret on the approaching retirement of the present Dewan and the Chief Judge of Mourbhanj. With the death of the late Maharaja, two of his trusted chief officers are withdrawing from the scene of their beneficent labours. The sun of the glory of Mourbhanj is about to set. We trust the minor Maharaja, on assuming charge of affairs, will be able to maintain the State in the pitch of good Government attained by his father.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

72. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June writes that Sir John Rees has made himself ridiculous in the eyes of Indians by giving publicity to his ignorant views as regards the Delhi changes during the recent debate on the India Bill in the House of Commons. Sir John Rees believes he is an expert on India affairs, but unhappily whenever he has spoken in public on India he has displayed his dense ignorance about things Indian. It is strange, therefore, that papers like the *Englishman* and the *Statesman* should put implicit faith in his opinions, and in supporting them should indite articles full of hatred towards Indians. Sir John Rees calls the nectar-like Delhi announcements which have poured a stream of nectar on the hearts of the Indian people—a surrender to agitation. This is a baseless, malicious and untrue statement. No one can say that Government has made such a surrender who reviews its policy since 1905. The place and the community which have developed any tendency to lawlessness have invariably been sternly repressed by Government—often indeed there has been an unnecessary severity in the process. Instances of such undue strictness are found in the Public Meetings Act, the Calcutta Police Act, the Press Act etc., so the statement that there has been a surrender to the agitators is a senseless one.

BASUMATI,
June 22nd, 1912.

Sir John Rees has also tried to alarm the Indian Government and the British public. This is a most low political device. He has said that such a policy of surrender will be fatal to India. Why and how? Experience points rather the other way. Lord Curzon by his strange Partition of Bengal, deliberately went against Bengali public opinion. The Bengalis alone know what serious mischief this Partition was doing them. No one else could know the dangers as they could. And so they started the agitation. Lord Morley himself admitted Lord Curzon's measure as a big mistake, but he was deterred from undoing it by an outbreak of lawlessness on the part of some Bengali youths. But his Lordship conceded that if new facts came to his knowledge regarding this Partition the matter would be reconsidered. Lord Crewe did get these new facts, and therefore he has modified the Partition. How then can it be called a surrender to agitation wholly?

The people make an agitation to bring to the notice of their rulers a grievance and the rulers recognizing the grievance rectify it. How can this be called a surrender to agitation? In fact, all political progress in all lands has been achieved by this kind of agitation and subsequent official action in compliance with that agitation. Free Trade, the repeal of the Corn Laws, the Reform Acts etc., in England were all secured by this means.

Thanks to the wisdom of the present Government and the Delhi announcements, there is peace now prevailing all over the land. If the eyes of opponents are not opened by a consideration of this fact even, they are blind indeed. We deny that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are the men best fitted to criticise these changes. No other Chamber of Commerce has joined the Bengal Chamber in its opposition. Does this mean that the members of the Bengal Chamber are wiser or more intelligent than the

members of the other Chambers? The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce are certainly not disinterested parties in the present dispute. Anyway it is a matter of satisfaction that the Delhi changes cannot now be upset by any amount of fictitious opposition by men like Rees, and they themselves recognize as much. Why then do they make such a show of opposition? The ways of English politicians are indeed inscrutable.

RANGPUR DIKPRAKASH.
KASH.
June 23rd, 1912.

73. In the course of the debate, writes the *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina] Debate on the India Bill in of the 23rd June, Sir J. D. Rees said that the Parliament.

yielding to agitation in India will bear poisonous fruits. In reply, Mr. Montagu said that it was not enough that rebels were punished but that it was also necessary that the cause of the pain which led men to be rebellious, and which could not be cured by repressive rule, should be removed. The truth of Mr. Montagu's words is fully borne out by the course of events in Bengal. The fire of discontent, which had been kindled in Bengal by the partition of the country, steadily increased instead of decreasing in consequence of the repressive measures and the severe policy of administration adopted by the Government. Unable to agitate openly, people formed secret societies and fearlessly laid down their lives in furtherance of their secret ends. But everything became quiet the moment His Imperial Majesty announced the annulment of the Partition, and the pain in the Bengali's heart was removed. In fact, no amount of repression can soothe the agony of a patient so long as its cause is not removed. In India, where the administration is carried on by officials independently of the people, the non-official element in the Legislative Councils having practically no control of affairs, the people depend entirely on the favour of the Government in everything. And if this favour is refused them, what wonder that they should go astray? Now, the question is, how is the people's mind to be known? Lord Curzon has said that most people in India do not keep any information about politics, and even many of those who do keep any such information are indifferent. We are unable to gauge His Lordship's purpose in saying this. The principle of equality is not yet paramount in the Indian society, so that the lower classes in India consider the higher classes to be their leaders in all matters. The opinion of educated India ought, therefore, to be considered as the opinion of the masses. This was proved by the outburst of joy with which His Imperial Majesty was greeted in Calcutta by all classes of people, after he had granted the prayer of the educated leaders of the country by annulling the Partition of Bengal.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
June 24th, 1912.

74. Commenting on the statement recently made by Mr. Montagu qualifying some previous remarks of his on the unity of the Indian Moslem population, which had given offence to that community, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 24th June remarks:—

Whatever interpretation Mr. Montagu may put on his words, the agitation which has compelled him to express "regret" in public cannot be a trifling matter.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 23rd, 1912.

75. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June notices the humiliation of Mr. Montagu by the agitation of the Musalmans, and says no Minister before this had acknowledged his mistake. The paper asks why Mr. Montagu did not think over twice before making the remarks about the homogeneity of the Muhammadans, who he now says have a religious unity.

STAR OF INDIA
June 21st, 1912.

76. India cannot ask for political rights from the English, says the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 21st June in the course of a long article noted in the margin; until the Hindus and the Muhammadans unite together but this is not possible so long as they do not give up their religious bigotry.

MUHAMMADI,
June 21st, 1912.

77. Truly, writes the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June, did Mr. Montagu the other day say, in the course of the debate on the India Bill, that India had not had and would not most probably have another Viceroy so able and learned as Lord Curzon. Why not then send His Lordship again to India? Who else could have saved India from the unjustifiable demands of Lord Kitchener?

78. In commenting on the opinion recently expressed at a public meeting in London by Sir Frederic Fryer against a railway

Burma and India : Sir Frederic Fryer's view of their union.

being built to connect India with Burma, on the ground that such a connexion will lead to Burma being swamped by Indian immigrants, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st June sarcastically refers to the many Europeans and Englishmen who are now making their fortunes in Burma, without threatening the individuality of the Burmese national existence and without rousing Sir Frederic's ire. The fact is remarks like these are mostly the result of selfishness, and the fun is that people are not ashamed to parade pseudo philanthropy of this type.

HITAVADI,
June 21st, 1912.

79. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 21st June warns Govern-

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
June 21st, 1912.

A Royal Commission on the Public Services.

ment not to have a Royal Commission on the Public Services in India, unless there is a clear recognition in their minds of the necessity of improving the prospects and powers of Indian officials and of effecting economy. Unless there is a determination to effect these objects, there is no need for a Commission. These Commissions, as a rule, do not accept the views of many witnesses; such views as the members of the Commission do accept do not always find expression in their report, for the interests of unanimity often require the sacrifice of views held by individual members. And lastly, the recommendations of the Commission are often accepted only in part by Government. Thus, the good done by these Commissions is whittled down to a point, which appears to Indians not to be worth reckoning at all. And often, this little good is taken to be bad by Indian public opinion.

80. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd June describes how, in the early days

NAYAK,
June 22nd, 1912.

The problem of finding employment for educated Bengali Babus.

of British rule in India, Bengalis were induced to account service as the means of their livelihood, and their service was greatly valued throughout India. They learnt English, imitated English habits and ideas and were in evidence wherever there were Englishmen and English institutions. As friends of the English they even suffered much at the hands of the insurgents in the Sepoy Mutiny. But now the English-educated Bengali Babu community finds the door of service in the whole of India, except its native province, barred against it. Within a few years more the posts under the Government of India also will pass out of its hands. What will educated Bengalis then do? They will be unemployed, and then naturally they will be discontented. In other parts of India, also, classes of people are being gradually formed who will depend on service for their livelihood. When, however, after some time they too will find service rare, they will join the ranks of the discontented Bengali Babus. It is the hungry and the unemployed who are extremists. Even Babu Surendranath was an extremist so long as he was hungry. The problem of finding employment for educated Bengali Babus is one of the greatest concern to the Government of India.

81. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 26th June writes that it were well that

NAYAK,
June 26th, 1912.

An attack on Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.

Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji had never left the Indian Civil Service and begun his career as a political agitator. He has largely been responsible for creating the chronic discontent in the Bengali mind against Government, and for teaching his compatriots to cross the social and religious bounds hitherto observed by them. He has actively supported the Boycott and Swadeshi movements and the National Education scheme. With all this record behind him, however, he has now become a supporter of Government. His Ripon College is now aided by Government funds. He is going to lengths, in his support of Government, which Narendra Nath and Nagendra Nath did not dare to proceed to. This change of opinion on Surendra Nath's part has been coincident with a change of his pecuniary condition. It is all well for him now to change his views, but has he thought of the men whom he has ruined, whom he has turned into habitual grumblers and fomenters of discontent? Does he remember what he said to the present writer when he held up the National Council of Education to derision, when he supported the Carlyle circular, when he wrote articles in the *Nayak* in defence of Narendra Nath and Nagendra Nath? Who could have expected such a complete change of views on his part now?

And we cannot help in this connexion paying our tribute of unstinted admiration to the political cunning which has enabled the British Government to effect this transformation. Well they deserve to be a ruling race. The *Nayak* will henceforth be a most docile servant of a Government which can effect such a wonder as to make a convert of a man of Surendranath's antecedents. Henceforth, it will be our policy to accord our support to everything that Government may do. And let educated Bengal forget the history of the last 30 years, with all its talk of patriotism and nation-building. For the old leaders—Umes and Rames, Ananda Mohan and Lal Mohan and Monomohan all are gone. Let educated Bengal abandon politics and return to the shelter of his own home and his society, so to speak. Let him return to the pious round of daily life to which his fathers were accustomed.

HITAVARTA,
June 23rd, 1913.

82. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 23rd June, after giving a brief account of the necessity for England to concentrate her navy in the North Sea owing to the naval progress of Germany and to leave the Mediterranean almost defenceless, depending on the friendship of France which, the paper fears, may end at any moment because such friendships are generally based on self-interest, notices the question raised by some statesmen that India should maintain her own navy, and points out how unfair it would be to throw a new burden on India without reducing the already too heavy expenditure on army maintained for Imperial purposes. The paper says that an additional expenditure of the kind would not only be unjust, but give rise to serious discontent.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
June 17th, 1912.

83. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 17th June writes:—
Nationalism is not sedition. If any fool calls this new national awakening seditious and treats it with unjust oppression, he thereby insults the ruling power, he goes against the wishes of the King—for his acts he is personally liable and not the sovereign. We shall fearlessly oppose him.

Who says that we are not loyal? The revered, the most powerful sovereign of many nations, George V., is our King-Emperor. All subjects of the British dominions, wherever situated, have equal claims on His Imperial Majesty.

If any Englishman says: "You are subjects of our King," we shall retort "you too are subjects of our King." If he says "Your King lives in England," we shall say "Your King lives in India." There should be a palace for the Emperor in India also.

It is because we are incompetent now that the government of our country is being carried on by English officers and soldiers. But that does not mean that we are subjects of the English people.

We want equal rights as regards nationality with the English nation for the sake of securing equal happiness and prosperity. This is natural and in accordance with the King's intentions. So our nationalism is not sedition.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 15th, 1913.

84. Referring to a private entertainment given by Pandit Ramaballabh Misra, Magistrate of Puri, to Mr. Egerton, Commissioner, Orissa Division, together with many Native and European gentlemen, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 15th June reports that it was a very successful one, and wishes that native gentlemen of position should sometimes have recourse to this means, which is calculated to promote the social intercourse of the two communities.

UTKALDIPIKA
June 15th, 1913.

85. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 15th June states that people are anxious to know the number of first grade junior and senior scholarships which will be awarded to the students passing the Matriculation and Intermediate Examinations from the Province of Bihar and Orissa. The paper prays Government to award at least four (if not five in consideration of

the backwardness of Bihar and Orissa) scholarships of each class to the students of the new province.

86. Referring to the *Tribune's* remark that the law relating to confessions of accused persons should at once be amended, as such persons in the hands of the police are sure to be oppressed, as they were reported to be in a case of police oppression recently disposed of by the Calcutta High Court in its Appellate Jurisdiction, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 15th June writes as follows:—

So long as native gentlemen are not made Superintendents of Police, the district authorities have not a keen eye on the Police officers, and there has not been complete separation of the Judicial and Executive Branches of administration, oppression of the Police cannot be put a stop to. Although the power of the Police has much increased, there is no adequate provision to check its misuse. Consequently, when the Police proceed to investigate even a case of suicide, it is well known how much profit do they sometimes make out of such a trivial matter. It is also a known fact that people desist from giving information of theft and such other things for fear of expenses. It is often seen that people are punished in return on going to complain against the police. Such is the case only because people fear to depose against the Police, for much evil may befall them if the Police mind to take revenge. The remedies, therefore, for such a state of things are to give better opportunities to the people to complain against the Police, and to call upon the district authorities to inquire into cases of Police oppression in a specified manner. If the authorities while trying such cases bear in mind the fact that the Police in this country are all powerful and the people are helpless, there is every probability of the character of the Police being changed for the better.

87. A Cuttack correspondent of the *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 13th June styling himself as "Truth" writes to say that the *College Ghât* of the river Kathjuri of Cuttack is frequented, for bathing purposes, by the students of the College Hostels and many other College and school students from about 9 to about 10 in the morning, and that a large number of prostitutes regularly occupy the same Ghât at the same time for the same purposes, and observes that such a state of things goes a great way towards the moral deterioration of students. The correspondent, as well as the editor, invites to this matter the attention of the authorities concerned, who, it is hoped, will judge the gravity of the grievance and take proper steps for its redress.

88. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 13th June is glad to learn from its contemporary of the *Beharee* "that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the new province has given orders to his Secretaries and Heads of Departments to fill up future vacancies by the deserving sons of the province, giving the Domiciled classes equal claims with the original inhabitants of the province." The editor hopes "that the sons of Orissa will be reconciled over this important announcement and will work for the common cause of Orissa" forgetting their mutual differences.

89. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 12th June also makes a similar statement and thanks His Honour for the same reason. The same paper also thanks the Director of Public Instruction, Bihar and Orissa, the Principal of the Ravenshaw College and the Commissioner of the Orissa Division for the appointment of Babu Suresh Chandra Bardhan, M.A., to the Provincial Educational Service as Professor in the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.

90. Endorsing the views of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* of the 11th June regarding the "would-be-constitution" of the forthcoming Legislative Council of Bihar and Orissa, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 12th June is of opinion that the criterion of representation in the new Council should be proportion of educated element instead of numerical strength.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 15th, 1912.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
June 13th, 1912.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
June 13th, 1912.

URIYA AND NAUVA-
SAMVAD,
June 12th, 1912.

URIYA AND NAUVA-
SAMVAD,
June 12th, 1912.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 8th, 1912.

91. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 8th June is sorry to learn that, although all the tract extending from Khallikote Station to Cicacole Road is inhabited by Uriyas, the lists of railway fares in all these stations are published in Telegu instead of Uriya. This causes great inconvenience to Uriya passengers. The editor draws the attention of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway authorities to the matter.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 29th June 1912.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 29th June 1912.

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Nil.	Bengalees and Biharis ... ib.
	Hindus and Muhammadans ... ib.

**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPARTMENT.**

[As it stood on 1st January 1912.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Basar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Prish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4*	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
5	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
6	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
7	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Noreah Chandra Sarbadhikari and Prish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,000
8	"Musalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Rayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon.), age 30 years.	2,500
12	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Pryo Nath Sen	...
13	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....

* Has not been published for the last six months, and most probably it will not be published again.

PART II OF THE WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the List of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st June 1912.

No	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
New	"Worlds Messenger" ...	No. 18, Kali Prasad Chakraborty's Street.	Monthly (English.)	Raghu Probir Mitra (Hindu), age 22 years.	100 copies.
Do.	"Current Indian News"...	No. 1-1, College Square, East.	Monthly (English.)	Monindra Nath Mitter and Brothers (Kayastha), age 32 years.	Ditto.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1032. Commenting on Police Reform the *East* says that the real defect lies in the materials in the very system under which the police force is recruited in Bengal.

EAST,
14th June 1912.

Police reform. Though in appearance there is very little to distinguish a man of clerical castes from an Aguri, a Mahishya or a Malla, yet in actual field it is notorious in what points they differ. Let them approach with sticks, arrows, swords or fists, and you see the difference in a minute, you distinguish the hound from the hind at once. It is a matter of regret that no opportunity has yet been given to these deserving classes to serve the Government in the capacity in which they are likely to excel by work for which they have natural aptitude. If discretion were properly used in the recruitment, much of the materials brought from other parts of India might be spared, not to speak of the increase of efficiency of the police force. The real defect lies in selecting the field of recruitment of police force, both men and officers in Bengal.

1033. Referring to Muhammadans and the higher grade of Police Inspectors, the *Mussalman* urges: "Although we are far from being satisfied with the number of Muhammadan officers holding posts in the higher grade of Police Inspectors in the eastern divisions of Bengal, we altogether fail to understand why in the two western divisions, namely, the Presidency and Burdwan, the Muhammadan element is utterly absent in the two upper grades of Inspectors of Police. We do not for a moment admit that qualified Muhammadans are not available to fill these offices in the two divisions referred to above. If competent Muhammadan officers in the lower grades are not forthcoming for promotion—a proposition which we are not prepared to admit—it is not easy to see why qualified Muhammadans from outside cannot be appointed to two upper grades, particularly in view of the fact that outsiders have been appointed direct as Deputy Superintendents of Police. We hope the matter will attract the attention of the Government of Bengal and the claims of the Muhammadans satisfied.

MUSSALMAN,
21st June 1912.

1034. With reference to memorial of the Faridpur District Association to His Excellency the Governor for the withdrawal of the additional police quartered at Madaripur, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks: Such measures are assailable on more than one basic principle. They mean the punishment of the nine innocent for the faults of the perhaps one guilty person. As such, they run hopelessly counter to the well-known salutary principle of criminal jurisprudence that it is better that nine guilty persons should escape than that one innocent person should be punished. A measure that combines in itself so many hardships and iniquities stands self-condemned, and is not only out of time but out of place now in our country. We sincerely hope that with the counter-tide of peace and orderliness that has set in, the policy of our rulers also will be coloured with a responsive tinge. Anything, therefore, that serves to perpetuate the old irritation or to keep alive bitter recollections of the past should be wiped clean off the slate of the administration.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th June 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

1035. The result of the appeal in the cotton gambling case in the High Court, writes the *Indian Mirror*, shows that the Government of Bengal would have been better advised in undertaking the legislation which the public asked for, than in embarking upon criminal proceedings at an obviously enormous cost. The judgment of Their Lordships has gone into the case exhaustively, and the law being what it is, the acquittal of the accused is the most natural thing.

INDIAN MIRROR,
30th June 1912.

The remedy, as Their Lordships have pointed out, lies in the hands of the Legislature. We hope the Local Government will proceed at once to take legislative action.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st June 1912.

1036. On the same subject the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the police, instead of running to the Magistrate with the accused for getting them punished with a view

Cotton-gambling case.

to put down the obnoxious practice, should have gone up to the Government for necessary legislative actions in the matter. Armed with the judicial sanction of the highest court in the land, the cotton-figure gamblers may now carry on a roaring trade with redoubled vigor and enthusiasm, at least till the Bengal Legislative Council is reconstituted in the beginning of the next year, and snap their fingers at the police with impunity.

The question next crops up the paper goes on to say,—“Is it possible for any legislative measure to eradicate such social evils as gambling, betting, lottery, racing and so forth? We must frankly confess, we have no faith in such legislation to serve that purpose. The rain gambling is as much a pernicious thing as the cotton-gambling. An Act was passed to suppress the former. And yet the race of rain-gamblers has not been killed; on the other hand, a very influential Marwari gentleman assured us only the other day that they were in a quite flourishing condition and fattening at the cost of their befooled victims; only they do their business in private and more cleverly than before. We are also obtuse enough not to understand why should rain-gambling and cotton-gambling rouse the righteous indignation of all, and not horse-racing which possibly ruins more people than the former, many of whom, again, may be the flowers of society.”

BENGALIAN,
22nd June 1912.

1037. Commenting on the same subject, the *Bengalee* writes: “The police in this matter did their duty in a manner that commanded public approbation; and the

Ibid.

Magistrate also did his duty, and the sentences of imprisonment that he inflicted upon some of the accused showed that he had an adequate conception of the gravity of the evil. It is the inadequacy of the law that is responsible for the escape of the gamblers. The insufficiency of the law having been established by the judgment of the highest court in the land, it remains for the Government to move the Legislature to put down an evil which has ruined thousands of people, and which, if allowed to remain unchecked, will ruin many more. Because we are not able to put down gambling of all kinds, that is no reason why we should not combat the evil where we can.”

HINDOO PATRIOT,
22nd June 1912.

1038. The *Hindoo Patriot* commenting on this case upholds the judgment and urges, “A Judge is to give his judgment according to justice, equity and good conscience,

Ibid.

and is not to be guided by any other considerations. If the law is defective it is for the Legislature to amend it. A Judge should not strain the meaning of a statute to convict and punish men whom society brands as criminals, but who are not so in the eye of the law. For that would be for a Judge to usurp the functions of the Legislature. We therefore deprecate such writings as tending to bring the High Court into ridicule.”

HERALD,
21st June 1912.

1039. Linking the decision of the Privy Council in Mr. Clarke's case, with the judgment in the cotton-gambling case the *Herald* remarks that the bounds of law are too

Bounds of law.

circumscribed to be able to bring to book all the offenders considered so by the public as such. This liberality of law has its origin no doubt in the consideration that any number of guilty persons may be let off, but no innocent persons should ever be convicted. And from this no doubt arises those niceties employed by justices in deciding cases. That the same principle is not observed everywhere is the matter for extreme regret.

BENGALIAN,
21st June 1912.

1040. The decision of the Privy Council in Mr. Clarke's case the *Bengalee* writes, “has been received by the educated community throughout the country with a sense

Mr. Clarke's case.

of profound disappointment. It is fortunate that the case has been decided so long after all interest in it has ceased and when the unrest has practically disappeared. With this triumph of executive authority, supported by the decision of the highest tribunal in the land, we almost shudder to think what would have happened in East Bengal if the partition had not been modified

and the old unhappy state of things prevailed. The judgment of the Privy Council is now more or less a matter of antiquarian interest, except in so far that the public must urge the explicit enactment by the Legislature of the obligation to record a statement of the reasons for the search of the house, before the search is actually made. The judgment of the Privy Council has exposed to imminent peril the liberty of the subject in an important matter, and the express enactment of the Legislature must safeguard it."

1041. With reference to the same case, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—Now that the case has come to an end, we hope the entire episode will be forgotten. Even the bitterest

INDIAN MIRROR,
21st June 1912.

critic of the executive authorities had to acknowledge when the case was in progress, that their proceedings were conducted with absolute good faith. At the same time, every one was satisfied that the honours of the distinguished zamindar, who was plaintiff in the case, had been vindicated. The Privy Council judgment does not in any way lessen the esteem in which the plaintiff is held by the public, while it clears up certain technicalities of the law, which must be regarded as satisfactory in the interests of the public as well as the executive authorities.

1042. The *Hindoo Patriot* agrees entirely with the decision of the Privy Council. It remarks as follows: "The consensus of public opinion in this matter will be with the

HINDOO PATRIOT,
24th June 1912.

decision of the Privy Council. The duties of the Executive in India are delicate and onerous enough, and if he is confronted with the law on every occasion that he may have to quieten a disturbance, it is needless to state that his arm will be paralysed and the required energy and promptitude will not be forthcoming. In fact it is the duty of the Government to support him in such measures that he may think fit to adopt to secure the public safety, and it is perfectly well known that the Government of India upheld the action of Mr. Clarke all along in this matter."

1043. "The Privy Council judgment in the Mymensingh case," comments the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, "has dealt a serious blow to the prestige of the Calcutta High

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th June 1912.

Court and placed the liberty of the Indian subjects of His Majesty at the sweet will of the District Magistrate. The journal confesses to a feeling of surprise that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council should denounce the conduct of the late Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Fletcher in such severe terms, though none of them uttered one unkind word against Mr. Clarke. On the other hand, both of them did their very best to absolve him of all blame, if possible. What presumably has happened is this: The High Court found that the Magistrate had committed an illegal act by violating the provisions of the Arms Act; the Judicial Committee have set aside this decision. The High Court held again that the Magistrate had no justification in causing the search to be made under the Criminal Procedure book and the Act of 1850: the Judicial Committee have held that the Magistrate had such jurisdiction. So they have apparently decided the case from two opposite poles! Of course the Privy Council judgment prevails; but, as long a decision is not based on judicially sound facts, it can never carry any weight with the general public."

1044. In the course of an article on the new High Court for Bihar, the

COMRADE,
22nd June 1912.

Comrade writes: "Every large province should normally be self-contained, and the burden of proof lies on those who wish to deny it a High Court and a University. Hitherto we have not come across any argument against these in the case of Bihar, and Bengali agitation against them shows little beyond the greed of a section of the Bengali lawyers and the love of power of some other sections of Bengalees. Now, however, agitation cannot be helped, and while we must wait for the opinion of the Local Government, Bihar must put up with the Bengali agitation as part of the bargain. But when the organs of Bengali opinion next talk of the identity of interests in India, Moslem as well as Hindu, we trust our Bihar friends will remember that there is such a thing as a difference of immediate interests, such as is only too apparent now in the case of the immediate interests of Bihar and Bengal. The Mussalmans have too long been preached to in the name of Indian nationality, and Biharees have vied with Bengalies in the lengthened solemnity of these homilies. It is their turn

now to smile a little, if not laugh outright, at the Indian nationalism exhibited by the Bengali co-adjutors of modern Bihar."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
22nd June 1912.

1045. The *Hindoo Patriot* is led to make the following remarks on reading the judgment of the High Court in a case which came before it recently: The journal thinks it is

The High Court.
its duty to condemn anything which is calculated to bring the High Court into contempt. But its indignation knows no bounds, when the offender is a subordinate judicial officer whose duty it is to obey the highest Court of Justice in the land. For in the latter case, the mischief done is incalculable. It shakes the faith of the people in the administration of justice. Secondly, it puts an end to all discipline in the Judicial service. Thirdly, it induces the belief that the offending officer is secretly encouraged by the Government in his erratic conduct.

BENGALIEE,
22nd June 1912.

1046. The *Bengalee* desires to draw attention to the proceedings of Mr. Hamilton, the District Magistrate of Murshidabad, who, it appears, has issued general orders to his subordinate Magistrates to refuse bail-bonds, executed by muktears on behalf of accused persons. It is the practice all over the country for muktears to stand as sureties for accused persons: and it must be said that on the whole the system has worked well. It is always in the power of the Magistrate in any particular case to refuse a bail-bond. What the paper objects to is the interference of the District Magistrate with the discretion, vested by law in his subordinate Magistrates, and which they are entitled to exercise without let or hindrance. The case affords an illustration of the serious inconveniences arising from the combination of Judicial and Executive functions in the head of the district.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
24th June 1912.

1047. Referring to the judgment of Mr. Justice Imam, seconded by Justice Mukherji in the case of Emperor *versus* Jhari and two others, in which the three accused were acquitted, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* comments: "Litigants are getting tired of technicalities with which judicial proceedings in law courts in India abound, and if only common-sense is made the basis of decisions at all events in criminal cases, many of the technicalities would disappear to the relief of all."

(d) = Education.

MUSSALMAN,
21st June 1912.

1048. In the course of an article on the Calcutta Madrassa scandal, urging Government to punish adequately those who are implicated in it, the *Mussulman* writes: "If the Government has not been in possession of sufficient evidence to form any definite opinion as to the truth or falsity of the allegations publicly made, we insist on the holding of a public enquiry by a committee to be appointed by Government, and, as we have repeatedly said, a general pardon should be extended to the witnesses, otherwise sufficient evidence will not, we think, be forthcoming. The charges are grave ones and the case comes within the purview of the Indian Penal Code, and it would not be too much if the public expect the Executive Government to take it up and have it enquired into by the police. Although undue pressure is being brought to bear upon influential officials, the public are confident that the Government of which Lord Carmichael is the head will do everything necessary to bring the offenders to justice."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st June 1912.

1049. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* urges that the duties of a civilized Government are well known. It should, first of all, look to the best interests of the people. If the bulk of them are in a starving condition or a constant prey to pestilential diseases, that ought to be a foremost matter for anxiety in the minds of the rulers. Again, if the educated classes find that they have no prospect of any decent career in life to which they can legitimately aspire or no opportunity to train themselves for such career, the Government should never be at mental ease, until such a state of things is remedied. Is it not a humiliating position that our boys should be compelled to go to a foreign land for education, when we are under a most enlightened Government?

1050. Referring to the Dacca University Commission, the *Bengalee* has ascertained that the University will make immediate provision for two thousand students and that it will have four colleges affiliated to it, including the Dacca and Jagannath Colleges. The paper wishes to know whether Anandamohan College at Mymensingh and the Brajamohan Institution at Barisal are to make up the four. If so, such a proceeding would be in entire conflict with the resolution of the Government of India which expressly laid down that the scope of the University is to be confined to the limits of the town of Dacca.

The journal again desires to press the view that the proceedings should be made public, and that representatives of the press should be allowed the opportunity of reporting them.

1051. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the disclosures made regarding the inner working of the Dacca Jagannath College Council read more like fiction than reality.

The Jagannath College. They throw a lurid light on the scandalous muddle which lately sprang such an unpleasant surprise upon the public, and which still continues to exercise the public mind, thanks to the queer procedure of the council as well as the no less queer attitude of the Principal. It has not only infused some elements of executive highhandedness, police suspiciousness and defiance of constitutional methods into their council and thereby demoralized some of their heads as well, but is really retarding the cause of education (for which they are primarily intended) by throwing all sorts of obstacles in the way of their improvement. Is it a foretaste of the era of educational millennium that is sought to be ushered forth in the province? As to exaggeration, all the paper can say is that, even if the disclosures are substantially correct, it is scandalous enough and grave enough to demand the most serious attention of His Excellency Lord Carmichael and his Government.

1052. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, commenting on Mr. T. Palit's gift of seven lakhs of rupees for the establishment of chairs in Physics and Chemistry as well as the

A princely donation. construction of a University laboratory, remarks: "This circumstance, which has no doubt created a sensation in the town, is, however, calculated to give rise to reflections melancholy as well as pleasant. Thus, we cannot help feeling melancholy when we remember that in this instance the worthy donor is paying Paul by robbing Peter. Everyone knows that he had at first placed this splendid sum at the disposal of the National Council of Education for the development of scientific technical education for young men under national auspices. However, we now ought to console ourselves with the idea that this amount will be spent towards encouraging higher scientific researches among the students of our country, and that the Professors are to be recruited exclusively from the Indian rank of scholars. The straining of the Imperial Government at a few thousand rupees per annum is well set off by the broad-minded liberality which has prompted Mr. Palit to give away seven lakhs of rupees at one stroke of the pen.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

1053. The *Mussulman* asserts that the necessity of adequate and effective representation of the Muhammadans in District and Local Boards and municipalities has been urged upon the Government times without number, but unfortunately the persistency of the Government not to recognise the claim of the community in this matter has not yet been overcome. The journal has now and then shown in its columns how the needs and requirements of the Muhammadans suffer for want of proper representation of the community in those bodies, and Muhammadan Anjumans and Associations all over India have cried hoarse on the subject, yet there has been practically no response from the authorities and no assurance that the demand will be satisfied sooner or later. But they should not be despondent on that account. Agitation is the keynote of success in this age and a vigorous agitation should be started and

BENGALIE,
23rd June 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th June 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th June 1912.

MUSULMAN,
21st June 1912.

persistently continued till their claim is recognised and the demand complied with. The claims of their community will continue to be trampled under foot until their co-religionists sufficiently assert themselves.

INDIAN MIRROR,
23rd June 1912.

1054. Commenting on the sanitary condition of the country, the *Indian Mirror* opines that there is still much room for improvement; but it would be a mere shirking of individual responsibility to demand that the Government should do all for the improvement of village sanitation. In certain matter Government action cannot achieve half as much as popular action can; for example, it is the people who must keep their tanks and tenements clean. There is nothing of greater importance than personal hygiene; and in such a matter individual action is necessary.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

BENGALIEE,
22nd June 1912.

1055. In a letter to the *Bengalee*, Jnanendra Chandra Chatarji, Lecturer, Midnapore College, complains that there is practically no intermediate class accommodation in any train now running between Calcutta and Midnapore. A few days ago he was obliged to travel third class owing to the intermediate class carriage being overcrowded. He asked several of the Railway assistants to grant him a certificate to enable him to get a refund, but no one paid heed to his request. Many others shared the same fate on that day.

1056. The *Herald* expresses its sorrow at the dismissal of Surendra Nath Ray, Station Master, Haziganj: "This gentleman, it will be remembered, gave evidence on behalf of the prosecution in the sensational Railway outrage case brought against Gomez for molesting a married woman. As far as our information goes, Surendra Babu has a spotless record of about nine years' service. He made a straightforward statement. His evidence was valuable and worthy of acceptance for which he deserves credit, and here comes his reward. In all propriety his case ought to be reconsidered."

HERALD,
25th June 1912.

Babu Surendra Nath Ray,
Station Master, Haziganj Station.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th June 1912.

1057. "Sib Chandra Das," Hooghly, writes to the *Indian Mirror*: "It is a matter for deep regret that questions affecting interests of the railway systems as exist in India should be ever at a discount in consideration of the fact that all affairs relating to the weal and welfare of the human society in which we live and have our being are abundantly discussed both in the press and on the platform. In our every-day life busily engrossed as it is in mundane affairs, instances are not rare as observed in connection with the coaching traffic which, for lack of proper facilities and want of tact and good handling, call for immediate help of the general public whose interests are indissolubly allied to those of the railway systems governed by officials responsible for their onerous duty."

BENGALIEE,
27th June 1912.

1058. Surendra Lall Sen Gupta Chhindwara (Central Provinces) in a letter to the *Bengalee* complains that on Tuesday, the 18th June, he went to the Howrah Booking Office to buy his tickets at about 12-30 P.M. The lady in charge, instead of complying with his request, closed the door and went away. She returned after twenty minutes thereby putting the complainant to great inconvenience. The Bengal Nagpur-Railway authorities are kindly requested to inquire into the case and take proper action.

(h)—*General.*

HERALD,
19th June 1912.

1059. Commenting on the proposed partition of Mymensingh, the *Herald* writes that there is a rumour that the ultimate object of Government is to split the Mymensingh district into three divisions. Nothing can be said with regard to this rumoured epidemic of partition until an announcement has been made from a responsible quarter. But the journal fails to see what lies behind this uncalled

for efforts of Government to grant better administration to Mymensingh by means of several divisions when districts like Midnapore and Rangpur escape its notice.

1060. On the same subject the *Bengalee* says: "In a matter of this kind

BENGALIAN.
31st June 1912.

The Partition of Mymensingh. public opinion is the one sure infallible guide for the determination of the policy and the action of the Government. It is not so much official convenience that has to be consulted as the wishes of the people which should form the supreme test. It is the people who are most concerned in a question of partition and their voice ought to be paramount. The Government has recognised this principle in the modification of the partition of Bengal; and it is and ought to be an active and living factor in determining the policy of the Government. The journal can think of no more unfavourable opportunity than the present of starting a new question of partition, when the popular mind is still full of suspicion with regard to all questions of partition. It hopes the idea will be abandoned. It is inconceivable that in view of the strong and unanimous expression of public opinion condemning the proposal the Government will give effect to it. In these days no administrative measure can work satisfactorily which is opposed to the popular opinion or the popular wishes."

1061. Commenting on this subject, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* proposes that "if it is beyond the capacity of one District

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
22nd June 1912.

Ibid.

Magistrate to carry on the administration of Mymensingh all that he needs, is an Additional Magistrate, Subdivisional Joint-Magistrate and a few more European police officer with a further extension of railway communications. If he is still overworked the appointment of a couple of additional Deputy Magistrates will quite suffice to afford him the relief he needs. It should be remembered that we need peace and rest, and there is no doubt that the whole of Bengal will be convulsed if Mymensingh is sought to be divided."

1062. *Vox populi* writing to the *Bengalee*, prays that the project of partitioning Mymensingh may be abandoned or at least postponed for the present and the public

BENGALIAN,
23rd June 1912.

Ibid.

money be profitably employed in constructing a railway line connecting Mymensingh with the Garo Hills where extensive coal mines have been discovered. A line from Bhairab to Netrokona *via* Kishoreganj was surveyed in the winter of 1910, but no more has been heard of it. Let these things be first done and then the question of a new town may be considered.

1063. "Fairplay," Janalpur, writing to the *Herald*, regarding the partition of Mymensingh says: "It is not too much to say that the proposed scheme for

HERALD,
24th June 1912.

Ibid.

partition has up till now received adverse criticism from the press irrespective of its intrinsic merits properly so called. Opposition is now-a-days an order of the day; and much has been said regarding the inadvisability of the proposed division of the district. This proposal, like all others, has undoubtedly its *pros* and *cons* which should be thoroughly discussed and should, as far as possible, be laid here before the public for sound treatment in all of their bearings. The people of this backward subdivision are highly in need of encouragement and will no doubt be amply benefited by the new arrangement in matters, social material and educational, if not in other respects. They look upon the prospect with great pleasure and gratitude. Any allegation as to their reluctance of indifference to this wholesome measure is far from what can be believed and is rather an outcome of a gross misrepresentation. The whole subdivision welcomes the measure and is ready to accept it as a great boon towards the progress and welfare of the people. We see, the matter has advanced too far to admit of any change and it is therefore desirable that co-operation, rather than opposition, should be the guiding policy of all right-thinking men."

1064. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* brings to notice the grievances of Sub-

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st June 1912.

Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

Assistant Surgeons, which deserve the attention of the Government. Considering the nature of the hard and responsible duties that are demanded of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon, the pay he draws and the prospects before him are anything but encouraging in their effects. The posts open to Sub-Assistant Surgeons are mostly those

in which the merit and capability of the officers seldom find scope for work. No definite plan is followed in the matter of posting them; senior men are often put on temporary duties, while many junior men are given charge of important posts. It is expected that these officers will be treated with consideration, and that their grievances will be redressed.

INDIAN MIRROR,
22nd June 1912.

1065. Referring to the announcement in the *Times* that the Government has decided to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the public services in India generally, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—"The President of the Commission will, in all probability, be a distinguished public man in England. We are confident that the choice of Lord Crewe will fall upon one possessing the requisite knowledge, skill and experience. We also hope that the Indian members will be selected with the greatest discrimination. They should be men, not only of independence and judgment, but of undenominational views. The Government is to be deeply thanked for the course it appears to have taken, and we trust we shall see the Commission in its work by the next cold weather.

Public Service Commission.

TELEGRAPH,
22nd June 1912.

1066. In the course of an open letter to Lord Carmichael, the *Tele-graph* remarks:—"If Your Lordship would consult the interests of the population, what you should do is to take care that the wishes and aspirations, the needs and requirements of the people as a whole, are respected. We would warn Your Excellency that these very often run counter to what the so-called educated 'leaders' represent. The true representatives of the people would be middle-class men, who are in touch with the masses; and the big folk who live at a respectable distance from the letter can never adequately voice their wants and grievances."

TELEGRAPH,
22nd June 1912.

1067. The *Telegraph* brings to notice some complaints made by a correspondent in respect of the management of the Tarakessur Temple. Undue influence and often force is applied to pilgrims, especially females, in order to induce them to pay something to the Mohunta's *gadi* in addition to the offerings they make to the god.

They are now made to pay admission fees to the temple twice, and the men entrusted with this duty behave with lady pilgrims in a most objectionable way. Because of the heavy taxes levied by the Mohunta, scarcely any trader, hawker or shop-keeper uses the ordinary weights.

The journal invites the attention of the authorities to these complaints, and hopes that these grievances will be removed.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
24th June 1912.

1068. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* hopes that the Nicholson Committee will bring to their work the requisite amount of close scrutiny and strict enquiry. The Commissariat Department itself, so far as the journal remembers, was never a model of economic management; and if its successor outdoes its predecessor in the matter of expenditure and has thus the effect of causing some extra holes in the already attenuated public exchequer, the sooner it follows the latter to the grave the better. This is, however, only one of the thousand and one directions in which there is the amplest scope for effecting economy.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
25th June 1912.

1069. In the course of an article on the value of titles, the *Indian Empire* points out their worthlessness, and charges the Government with being over-generous in this respect.

Value of titles.

"It does not care much if the paternal Government pleases to over-flood India with Rajas, Nawabs and Bahadurs. What it cares for more is that its public men, really the men of light and leading, should be kept out of this contagion.

"You cannot expect any title, if you are not taken in hand by some Civillian Murabbi; if you are not proficient in the art of toadyism, you cannot expect to please him; if you want to please him, you must be prepared to sacrifice some of your best convictions; and the empty title is your fitting reward!

"Government is presumed to bestow honour to representative public men. They are public men, because they are backed by popular force. No sooner they hanker after and receive such empty titles, they lose their popularity and confidence of the people. They are no longer popular; they are not worth buying."

1070. The *Bengalee* publishes certain grave allegations made against

The outrageous conduct of a Deputy Commissioner in Bihar.

Mr. Milne, Deputy Commissioner, Purulia, which are furnished by a thoroughly trustworthy correspondent. The paper desires to draw the attention

of Sir Charles Bayley to these charges, and remarks: "We can readily imagine what must be the feeling of our Bengali countrymen whose misfortune it is not to be included within the Bengal Presidency when they read of a case like this. We hope that a strict enquiry will be held; and if the above allegations are proved to be true, Mr. Milne will be promptly relieved of the responsible position which he now holds."

BENGALÉE,
25th June 1912.

1071. In the course of an article on the re-adjustment of territories, the

The re-adjustment of territories.

Bengalee reminds the Government of the great lesson of the partition, which is, that the longer an administrative arrangement is allowed to continue, the more it becomes stereotyped, and the greater the difficulties of modifying it later on. If the partition of Bengal had been modified in 1906, half the difficulties which have attended the recent administrative re-adjustments might have been avoided.

BENGALÉE,
26th June 1912.

1072. "Anti-whimsical" Dacca, writes to the *Herald* complaining that

Postal irregularities.

the Sutrapur Branch Post-office has now grown to be a source of unmitigated disgust and public inconvenience so far as its functions are concerned. It is hoped that the authorities concerned will take early note of this grievance.

HERALD,
26th June 1912.

1073. With reference to the information from a Tangail correspondent

The Arms Act.

that a leopard is playing havoc in the villages Allenga and Nagarpur, and that the inhabitants are simply panic-stricken, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* comments as follows:—"We find that, in view of the altered condition of the situation at Tinnevely, the rigorous restriction on the issue of licenses for possession of fire-arms has been removed, and the District Magistrate has issued a circular to the effect that application for possession of fire-arms will be liberally treated. Why should not the same method be followed in Mymensingh and other places infested by wild animals? Now that the bugbear of sedition has been killed, we think the Government can have no objection to relaxing the present stringent rules connected with the operations of the Arms Act."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th June 1912.

1074. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"Under the new rules sanc-

Motor-cars for high officials.

tioned by the Secretary of State, high officials will have motor-cars for their use. The Indian taxpayers can look to the question from a financial point of view, i.e., whether or not the new arrangement will effect in any way the amount of travelling expenses of officials on tour. If it does not increase the amount now given to officials to meet their travelling expenses, they can have no objection to the new arrangement. But if it does, is it not selfish on the part of the touring officials to enjoy the luxury of motor-cars at the expense of the poor Indian tax-payers?"

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th June 1912.

1075. Referring to Reuter's Telegraphic summary of Lord Crewe's speech

The Government of India Bill.

in the third reading of the Government of India Bill in the House of Lords, the *Indian Mirror* remarks:—"We do not know why Lord Crewe's explanation was not made earlier, as it would have saved a good deal of misapprehension in the public mind. The interpretation which the forward school of Indian politicians put upon the paragraph on autonomy was not without some foundation, in view of the somewhat vague pronouncements of the Under-Secretary of State. We do not understand how some of our politicians came to interpret the paragraph as meaning that autonomy on the lines of colonial self-government was to be the goal. We do not think there is any reason to be dissatisfied with Lord Crewe's declaration. It does not in any way discourage the legitimate aspirations of the people. It does not mean that the space of reform will be slackened. It does not convey any suggestion that there is to be a halt to the work of the reconstruction of the Indian administration in accordance with the requirements of the day. Under the present Liberal Government a steady advance is being made in the direction indicated. Every individual whose opinion counts for anything, acknowledges that India has entered upon a new era of political progress. The question for the consideration of Indian politicians is not whether they

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th June 1912.

are going to get more, but that they should show their fitness for the privileges and concessions which they have already received. In other words, fitness should be the goal of educated India. Grandiose visions do not show fitness. The people of India have not yet realised in full the duties and responsibilities of public life. Unity there is none, and the *self* is conspicuous in every rank of public workers. At this stage, to talk of 'colonial self-government' is anything but consistent with reason."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
27th June 1912.

1076. Commenting on the discussion at the third reading of the Government of India Bill in the House of Lords, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"It is quite possible that

The Government of India Bill. the people of India can remain good subjects of the British Government, and at the same time look for the largest amount of reform in their own affairs. As the subject of provincial autonomy in this country forces itself more strikingly on the British Government, it is nothing more than probable that that autonomy will be recognised and become a living force and power in the Indian Empire. The Government, as it is, are proceeding on these lines, their action being impelled by the vastness of the country they have to govern, and the effects of the changing condition of the times, in which the educated Indian now plays a more prominent part than he had done in the past."

BENGALER,
27th June 1912.

1077. On the same subject the *Bengalee* remarks:—"The question of questions therefore is—how will this declaration affect our people—what will be their attitude?"

Ibid.

Our reply is that we take our stand upon the solemn words of the Despatch—that following the precedent of judicial courts, we care not what the gloss of this Minister or that Minister is. There are the words of this Despatch—clear, luminous and emphatic in its sense and import—the purport of which is obvious to the meanest understanding. We are not to be diverted from the pursuit of the goal to which it points, by any Minister, forgetful of his Liberal principles and cowed down by a hostile House. We repudiate the interpretation. We stick to the text, and we are fully justified in so doing; for Ministers have spoken with different tongues. Lord Crewe has put one interpretation—Mr. Montagu another. In the midst of this conflict and divergence we are fully entitled to have our own views, or, if we so prefer, adopt a more liberal interpretation. We may be described as "revolutionaries," though Lord Crewe has been good enough to tell us that "revolutionaries," aspiring to Parliamentary Government in India under British control, are not revolutionaries of the odious and seditious order. We do not care what name is given to us, or by whom it is given. We know that to aspire to self-government as in the colonies is perfectly loyal and legitimate; and we are resolved, with the aid of the constitutional means at our disposal, to work towards this goal. No discouragement from high and responsible Ministers of the Crown, no protest, no hard words will divert us by an inch from the pursuit of our high purpose; and though we may not succeed in our life-time in making any appreciable progress, we will leave it to our successors as a mandate and a duty to carry on this work, and from generation to generation until the destined goal has been reached and autonomous Government has been established in India. What is to be the future of our reformed Councils, of the growing participation of the people in the government of their country, and of the increasing sense of national self-consciousness and self-respect which free institutions must engender? All these things must infallibly lead to the enthronement of the popular will in the counsels of the Government and the eventual establishment of Parliamentary Government in India, despite the protest of Lord Crewe and others like him. We hardly remember to have read a speech so inconsequential and illogical as that of the Secretary of State. But those who are engaged in the difficult game of politics have often to assume attitudes similar to those of actors on the public stage. The pose is assumed for a purpose, and is cast off at the right moment. Whether that be so or not in the present case, we the people of India feel that the attainment of autonomous Government does not depend upon the protestations of Ministers and high functionaries, but upon us and our devoted and self-sacrificing efforts. For the truth cannot too often be repeated that nations by themselves are made.

1078. Referring to the same subject, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th June 1912.

The Government of India Bill. "To the ordinary mind the passage in the despatch on autonomy can have only one meaning, namely, the Indians are justified in demanding a larger share in the government of their country, and this difficulty can only be solved by creating a number of autonomous and self-governing administrations for them in the provinces under the control of the Supreme Government. These administrations, to quote the words of the Despatch, must be 'autonomous in all provincial affairs.' Now, autonomy means 'the power of right of self-government.' So the plain meaning of the passage is that the people of India ought to be allowed to manage their provincial matters through their own representatives under English guidance. . . . 'In order that this consummation may be attained, it is essential that the Supreme Government should not be associated with any particular Provincial Government. The removal of the Government of India from Calcutta is, therefore, a measure which will, in our opinion, materially facilitate the growth of local self-government on sound and safe lines.' Let us repeat once again that a lordly buffalo was promised to the expectant people of India, but not even a tiny grass-hopper has been given to them! May we enquire, how does our noble-hearted Viceroy explain the passage in question? He is the most proper party to do so; for, either His Excellency wrote it himself or got it written by a subordinate of his under his direction. What does the good Viceroy say? Echo answers—what does our good Viceroy say?—Alas! he was never allowed an opportunity to give his version of the affair! The capital of the empire, the paper continues, was transferred to Delhi, in order to give effect to the proposed provincial autonomy. As the proposal has now been knocked on the head; may we not reasonably ask: 'Give us back our Capital.' We also think that those short-sighted Bengali leaders who had supported the removal of the capital should now hold another public meeting and rescind the resolution they passed by a confession of their blunder, and asking that as provincial autonomy is not going to be granted to the people, they should get back their capital."

III.—LEGISLATION.

1079. Referring to the invitations of Government to Messrs. Bhujendra

The Legislative Council.

Nath Bose and Surendra Nath Banerji to express their opinion on the reorganisation of the Legis-

EAST,
17th June 1912.

lative Council, the *East* writes that the Calcutta political party have very little to do with other influential classes, who though not coming actually under the category of the educated community, yet exercise influence, and have a stake in the country inferior to that of non-else. If the object of the present Government be to reconcile the so called political leaders of the country in that way, it will unavoidably cause enmity in the mind of other important Hindu classes and the Muhammadans who have so sincerely stood by the side of the Government during the period of its difficulty. The matter demands the serious consideration of the Government. The journal does not imply that the Government will blindly follow what these gentlemen, leaders of their own-caste men, say. But if these gentlemen be thought fit to be asked to give their views in the matter, why not the leaders of the other important classes, creeds and castes?

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

1080. The *Bengalee* writes:—"We do not know when the High Prices

The High Prices Committee.

Committee will finish its inquiry. It is time that the public should know what it has done so far.

BENGALER,
25th June 1912.

Anyhow, we commend to its notice one particular point—the export of rice. It is certainly worthy of consideration whether exports induce high prices. Evidently, they do. It is said that demand for Indian rice for the Further

East is still so great, and such high prices are being offered, that old stocks in Bengal and Bihar are being literally unearthed and placed on the market. The export trade is active, and it is likely to continue to be so for some weeks to come. Good rain within the next fortnight will serve to stimulate exports.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

HERALD,
18th June 1912.

1081. In the course of an article on India and the Empire, the *Herald* writes :—"We set aside any claim the Indian people may have as citizens of the Empire to be considered

as good as the Chinese or the Japanese. We must in fact acknowledge the difficulties of the new countries and their fear of the great inrush of Asiatic immigrants. But what cannot be overlooked as a perfectly legitimate and praiseworthy ambition and must be hammered at until it is granted is Indian desire for admission to the Councils of the Empire."

BENGALER,
21st June 1912.

1082. With reference to the representation of the Bengalis on the Congress Reception Committee at Patna, the *Bengaler* is glad to hear from its Bankipore corre-

spondent that in the great national movement which seeks to unify the Indian peoples and inspire them with a sense of brotherly love towards each other, the Bengali of Bihar have been assigned to their legitimate place. "And while our mutual jealousies and dissensions cannot fail to impair the general well-being, our union and solidarity must add to our united strength and help forward the great purposes of national salvation. From the parochialism of the province we must rise to the loftier heights of patriotism; and we must bear in mind that in this critical period of our country's history—this formative season when the plastic moulds are being slowly hardened into the life of the future—we have grave and solemn responsibilities, and must rise above petty, personal and provincial considerations and learn to live together as brothers, so that in the natural evolution of things and under the orderly progress which has set in we may eventually become a great, united and homogeneous nation."

COMRADE,
22nd June 1912.

1083. In the course of an article on the social relations between Hindus and Muhammadans, the *Comrade* writes:—

"The nature of the political antagonism with which we are face to face to-day is only half understood, though its consequences cannot be mistaken. Public life in this country is but another name for tactics. When entire communities have been organised, not with a view to securing the greatest good for all, but to keep the rivals out of their legitimate share, it may not be easy to deny that the standard of public life in this country is not of the highest. Misunderstandings have swung the whole purpose of Indian politics out of focus. Mutual recriminations can hardly restore sanity and balance to the stock conceptions of public duty. Though the two communities exist side by side, their ignorance of each other is growing to be phenomenal. Mutual knowledge and sympathy that springs from knowledge should precede political co-operation. Social reproachment is, therefore, the master-key to the Hindu-Moslem situation.

J. S. WILSON,

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OFFICE OF THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPT.,
9, ELYSIUM ROW,

The 29th June 1912.